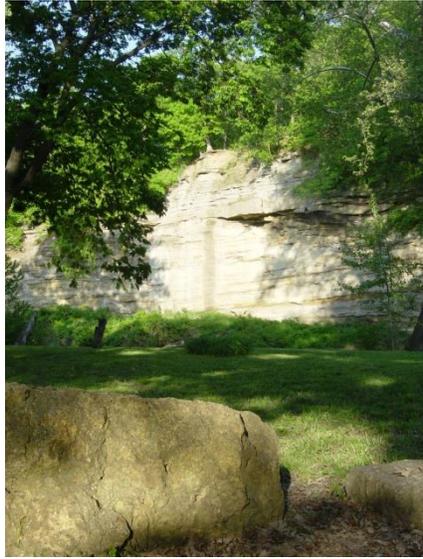


# Native Stone Scenic Byway



**A SCENIC BYWAY IN THE FLINT HILLS**

**CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**Native Stone Scenic Byway 1**

*REVISED July 8, 2016 to June 21, 2017*



**SCENIC BYWAY IN THE FLINT HILLS**

***A LOCAL CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN***

**For Conservation, Promotion and Enhancement of the Native Stone Scenic Byway**

**Native Stone Scenic Byway 2**



***Prepared For:***

The Kansas Scenic Byway Committee

All Counties and Towns within the Native Stone Scenic Byway Area

***Prepared By:***

The Native Stone Scenic Byway Committee

***With Assistance From:***

Kansas Department of Transportation

Kansas Department of Wildlife, Park & Tourism



**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Mission Statement-----7  
 Executive Summary-----8  
 Corridor Management Plan -----9  
 1 Introduction -----10  
   1.1 What is a Scenic Byway? -----10  
   1.2 Scenic Byway Programs. -----10  
     Local Programs, Private Sector Programs, State Programs, Federal-  
     Programs, and the National Scenic Byway Program-----10-11  
   1.3 Kansas State Byways Program. -----11- 12  
   1.4 What Does Designation Mean? -----12  
   1.5 What is the Corridor Management Plan? -----12-13  
   1.6 A Corridor Management Plan for the NSSB. -----13

1.7	The NSSB CMP is Designed To: -----	13
1.8	The NSSB CMP is <u>Not</u> Designed To: -----	14
2	The Corridor Defined-----	14
2.1	The Kansas Native Stone Scenic Byway. -----	14-15
2.2	Vision Statement. -----	15
2.3	Goals. -----	15-16
2.4	Intrinsic Qualities. -----	16
2.5	Significance of Intrinsic Qualities. -----	16-33
2.6	Route Description. -----	33-34
2.7	Project Area. -----	34-36
2.8	Map. -----	37-38
	Annual Community Festivals -----	39-40
	Side Excursions -----	41-54
3	History of the Corridor-----	54-57
4	Conservation Goals: Identify and Protect Resources-----	57-63
5	Enhancement Goal: Develop Corridor Enhancements -----	63
5.1	Overview -----	63
5.2	Enhancements -----	63-65
6	Enhancement Goal: Compatible Development -----	65
6.1	Quality of Life -----	65-66
6.2	NSSB Actions -----	66-67
6.3	Outdoor Advertising -----	67
6.4	Coordination and Safety -----	67
6.5	Access -----	68
7	Visitor Experience Goals: Enhance and Promote-----	68
7.1	Overview -----	68
7.2	Development of Visitor Sites and Facilities -----	69
7.3	NSSB Actions: Development of Visitor Sites and Facilities -----	69-70
7.4	Interpretation Plan -----	70-71
7.5	NSSB Actions: Interpretation Plan -----	71
7.6	Children’s Education and Interpretive Programs -----	71
7.7	Marketing -----	71-72
7.8	NSSB Marketing Actions -----	72-73
8	Promotion Goal: Community Involvement through Organizational Structure-----	74
8.1	Committee Structure -----	74-76
8.2	Committee Task Forces -----	76-77
8.3	Committee Activities -----	77-78
9	Implementation Plan -----	78
10	Conclusion-----	78-79

Appendix A – List of Tourist Amenities-----	81
Dover-----	81-82
Eskridge-----	83-86
Lake Wabaunsee-----	86-87
Alma-----	87-93
Hinerville School-----	93
Wabaunsee-----	94
Zeandale-----	94-95
Manhattan-----	95-97
Emergency Services for Geary County-----	97
Appendix B – County Resolutions & Support Letters-----	98
City of Alma Resolution-----	99-100
Wabaunsee County Resolution-----	101-102
Riley County Resolution-----	103-104
Shawnee County Resolution-----	105-106
City of Eskridge-----	107-108
Geary County Resolution-----	109-110
Letters of Support-----	111-116

## **Mission Statement**

The Mission of the "Native Stone Scenic Byway" is to showcase the beauty and diversity of this area in Kansas and in so doing preserve our history, our culture, and our environment while enhancing local economic growth through tourism.



## **Executive Summary**

The "Native Stone Scenic Byway" is the outcome of several communities working together to foster economic growth in their rural towns and a sense of pride for those living and working in the area. The byway is easily accessed traveling north from I-70 at the Manhattan Exit 313 onto Highway 177, or south at the Auburn Road Exit 353 onto K-4 Highway.

The byway exists due to the twisting, winding creeks and roadways, agriculture, rich historical value of Bleeding Kansas and the underground railroad, cattle ranches, vast prairie vistas, historical stone fences and structures, the rolling Flint Hills region, seasonal foliage and wildflowers. Much of the roadway, having been created by early pioneers, follows the lay of the land. It stretches 75 miles along highways K-177, K-18, K-99 and K-4 and passes through the communities of Zeandale, Wabaunsee, Alma, Eskridge, Lake Wabaunsee, Keene and Dover.

Incorporated cities of Eskridge and Alma, as well as Riley, Geary, Wabaunsee and Shawnee Counties, have signed resolutions acknowledging the importance of the byway.

We have turn-outs for viewing the landscape and signage has been provided with information about community events, businesses, lodging, historical landmarks, history and natural scenery of the area. Preservation of stone homes, barns, bridges, fences, and supporting walls is a priority. Residents are encouraged to use stone to build more fences, to accentuate landscaping elements, and to mark driveways.



The byway is promoted through the Kansas Byways Program and the Kansas Department Wildlife Parks and Tourism. Color brochures depicting scenes along the byway are stocked in travel information centers, state tourism offices, county Economic Development offices, and local convention and visitor's bureaus, as well as,

on the TravelKs and Kansas Byways websites, and several social media sources .

## **THE CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN**

This Corridor Management Plan (CMP), has been designed to maintain the quality of life in the Flint Hills region of Kansas. With our resources, growth and development, our appreciation of history and interest in tourism, the communities along this corridor have become like a Kansas family, given the opportunity to see the vision of the future become a reality.

With the diverse history of the Flint Hills region of Kansas, from the Native Americans, to the cattle trails; from the European settlers, to the Bleeding Kansas era, the CMP will guide us to ensure that our fascinating history is maintained and protected.

### **WHY THIS PLAN WAS DEVELOPED**

This Corridor Management Plan represents a community-driven plan to showcase the diverse history and landscape of the region. The byway committee, comprised of members of each local community, will continue to work toward the implementation of this on-going plan.

### **How To Use The CMP**

The Corridor Management Plan (CMP), divided into ten sections, focuses on resources, management strategies, and project implementation.

Sections four through eight outline the plans and strategies by which the Native Stone Scenic Byway (NSSB) will be guided. Each section – Conservation Goal: Identify and Protect Resources, Enhancement Goal: Develop Corridor Enhancements, Enhancement Goal: Compatible Development, Visitor Experience Goals: Enhance and Promote: Promotional Goals: Community Involvement through Organizational Structure – lists both existing programs and byway committee actions.

The **Existing Programs** identify the initiatives, and agreements currently in place along the corridor and within the State. These programs help the Byway committee to coordinate and cooperate with the local communities along the corridor for planned Byway events.

**NSSB Actions** sections four through seven represent strategies, programs, and actions, that the NSSB committee will utilize and fulfill the Byway's vision.

The NSSB Committee will be responsible for determining:

1. A timetable for implementation
2. A work schedule for each project – See Section 9.

Funding, coordination, and community involvement is the responsibility of the Committee.

With the many community activities, the **Local Community Actions** section provides an introduction to the local initiatives currently underway.

Section nine identifies the strategy for an **Organizational Structure** to manage the Scenic Byway and its on-going development.

The CMP concludes with an **Implementation Strategy** which will assist the NSSB Committee in implementing the various actions.

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 WHAT IS A SCENIC BYWAY?**

Scenic Byways are special routes which allow travelers access to the beautiful scenery, historical and cultural riches of our region. They introduce us to places we might otherwise pass by. Whether it is a Sunday drive, a scenic highway or a road leading to a historical destination, if the community regards the roadway as a special resource to be promoted and protected, it is a Scenic Byway.

### **1.2 SCENIC BYWAY PROGRAMS**

In general, Scenic Byways may be identified through one of the following programs:

**STATE PROGRAMS**-Administered by state departments of transportations, Byway commissions and economic and tourism development offices, these programs identify routes of significance at the local and state level. A majority of states have, or are developing, Scenic Byway programs, which vary widely in their criteria and implementation.

**FEDERAL PROGRAMS**-Federal programs to designate and manage Scenic Byways have been developed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

and the USDA Forest Service (USFS).

**THE NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY PROGRAM**-The National Scenic Byways Program was established under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA). The Scenic Byways Advisory Committee, working with the Federal Highway Administration, recommended that the program designate a system of National Scenic Byways and All-American Roads. For a route to be eligible for designation as a National Scenic Byway, it must possess one or more of the six intrinsic qualities identified by the Scenic Byways Advisory Committee.

These intrinsic qualities include:

- Scenic
- Historic
- Cultural
- Natural
- Recreational
- Archeological

Byway designation requires that communities involved commit to its designation and management and develop a Corridor Management Plan (CMP).

Trails exclusively for hiking or snowmobiling, would not be included in the national program. Nominations for National Scenic Byway designation come from the local level through the states and most nominations will be state Scenic Byways. For the Kansas Native Stone Scenic Byway, interest at the local level, designation as a Kansas State Byway, and preparation of a Corridor Management Plan, must be completed. Federal agencies may also nominate Byways with the agreement of the state.

### **1.3 THE KANSAS STATE BYWAYS PROGRAM**

The goal of the Kansas Byway Program is to identify and designate scenic roadways for the enjoyment of the travelers in Kansas. They designate Scenic or Historic Byways that represent the diversity of the natural, social, cultural and economic resources of the Kansas Landscape, for all to enjoy, whether local or a visitor to Kansas.

The requirements states that the roadway must be highly visual or have historic interest along the route, be a minimum of twenty miles in length unless adjacent to an interstate or major highway, and the roadway must be paved and capable of carrying tour buses and recreational vehicles. It also requires the local community groups submit the application, complete a mile-by-mile evaluation and inventory, and a Corridor Management Plan (CMP), which demonstrates how the group intends to conserve, enhance, and promote the Byway.

The Kansas Byway Committee (KBC) serves as a review and advisory role. This Committee consists of representatives from the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT), Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWPT), and the Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS). The Committee reviews and evaluates all applications for nominations and grants, develops policies and procedures, and recommends Byways for state and national designation. The program is managed through a partnership between KDOT and KDWPT.

#### **1.4 WHAT DOES DESIGNATION MEAN?**

Byway designation at any level (local, state, or federal) provides recognition of the special qualities and resources of a Byway and corridor.

For many communities, Byway designation will provide new tourism opportunities, increased visitation, and economic development. It should always be a source of pride. Byway designation in Kansas provides:

- Access to additional funding
- Identification on state highway maps
- Promotional materials such as brochures, a Kansas Byways website, and other marketing activities
- Assistance from the Kansas Byways Program
- Networking opportunities

Designation as a National Scenic Byway by the United States Secretary of Transportation will acknowledge the significance of the Byway corridor. National designation, in Kansas, will make the route eligible for Scenic Byway funds, technical assistance from the FHWA, and inclusion in a national identification and promotion plan.

#### **1.5 WHAT IS A CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN?**

A Corridor Management Plan (CMP) is a written statement developed by

local community representatives. It is a “living document” serving as a guide. It should be reviewed on a regular basis to reflect accomplishments and changes in the Byway community.

The Corridor Management Plan is divided into sections addressing, tourism, economic development, land use management, organization, and implementation.

### **1.6 A CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE NSSB**

The Corridor Management Plan for the Native Stone Scenic Byway will ensure that the vision presented by the community becomes a reality. The CMP establishes a framework and structure by which the future of the corridor can be managed.

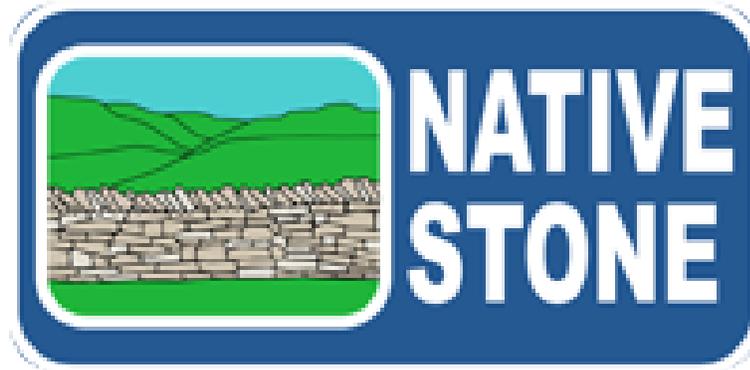
To accomplish this, the Corridor Management Plan identifies a series of actions for the benefit of the Native Stone Scenic Byway corridor. Based on research, with an input from local communities along the route, these actions are intended to direct and identify specific projects. These actions will increase the opportunities for the corridor communities to conserve the quality of life and historic importance of the route and enhance opportunities for economic development and tourism.

### **1.7 THE NSSB CMP IS DESIGNED TO:**

- Develop a stronger sense of the NSSB community of towns and counties along the Byway.
- Assist local communities with corridor-wide issues and plans.
- Provide a uniform voice endorsing corridor-wide projects.
- Increase communication among Kansas Native Stone Scenic Byway communities regarding tourism and economic development initiatives.
- Provide a framework by which economic development may be encouraged without compromising the quality of life enjoyed by the residents of the region.
- Provide a stronger unified voice to solicit funding for corridor-wide projects
- Fulfill the Corridor Management Plan requirements for designation as a State or National Scenic Byway.
- Be a flexible plan with the ability to modify over time as necessary.

## **1.8 THE NSSB CMP IS NOT DESIGNED TO:**

- Impose any regulation on a county or town along the route aside from limiting commercial signage.
- Require the adoption of any new local ordinances or special districts except to limit signage.
- Prohibit new construction or development.
- Deny any community its ability to pursue funding for local projects.
- Require participation in corridor-wide projects or programs.



## **2 THE CORRIDOR DEFINED**

### **2.1 THE KANSAS NATIVE STONE SCENIC BYWAY**

The "Native Stone Scenic Byway" showcases an area in Kansas that is well known for its native limestone, found in rocky landscapes, stone fences, bridges, commercial buildings and homes. The Byway journeys along the Kansas river valley along K-18 highway and through the Mission Creek and Mill Creek valleys, in Shawnee, Wabaunsee, Riley and Geary counties, the glorious Flint Hills and the Konza Prairie.

Not only is there a diversity of scenery, but the towns offer a glimpse at the differences in Kansas communities, from the unincorporated villages of Dover, Keene, Wabaunsee and Zeandale, to the small towns of Eskridge and Alma. Lifestyles are apparent as you pass by farms, ranches, small businesses, and observe families going about their daily routines.

A map of the area, with the "Native Stone Scenic Byway" highlighted, is included in section 2.8 Maps.

The natural anchors of the Byway would be the Konza Prairie, as it is part of the largest tallgrass ecosystem in the world; the historical significance of the Beecher Bible and Rifle Church, in the community of Wabaunsee; and Alma, the City of Native Stone, with its abundant stone structures and fences.

## **2.2 VISION STATEMENT**

The people of the communities have a shared vision for this byway. That vision is:

*The Kansas Native Stone Scenic Byway program includes conservation and promotion of the resources along the designated route and provides management of the route by local jurisdictions for economic and tourism development and long-term resource protection.*

## **2.3 GOALS**

The primary goals for the Kansas Native Stone Scenic Byway are established to direct the actions necessary to implement the vision. Like the vision, The Native Stone Scenic Byway Committee determined these goals together with several interested organizations, committees and individuals.

The Program satisfies five goals:

1. Identifies and protects natural, scenic, and historic resources.
2. Enhances Byway resources and encourages compatible development.
3. Involves the communities.
4. Builds a measurable travel product for current and future visitors.
5. Increases services to residents and visitors through appropriate enhancements providing opportunities for economic benefits from tourism.

Each of these goals will be the responsibility of the NSSB Committee. The

NSSB Committee is committed to the responsibility to meet all the necessary requirements of maintaining and promoting the Byway locally to ensure its support for years to come. The committee will coordinate efforts as needed to conserve, maintain and enhance the Byway.

## 2.4 INTRINSIC QUALITIES

The National Scenic Byways Program identifies six intrinsic qualities for which Byways may be designated: historic, scenic, recreational, cultural, natural, and archeological. These are the qualities that make a place what it is —the places, views and activities, which when viewed make the Native Stone Scenic Byway unique from any other corridor. Although developed for the National Program, the six qualities represent a simple approach to defining the essential features of any Byway.

A single resource may fit in more than one category. The following intrinsic quality listings represent an attempt to acknowledge general resources and patterns rather than identify specific resources.

The Kansas Native Stone Scenic Byway possesses features representing all the six intrinsic qualities. After mapping the entire route and conducting a detailed inventory of resources, local representatives chose to focus on **natural** and **scenic** qualities; although there is enough **historic** information on the byway some of that information is also included.

## 2.5 SIGNIFICANCE OF INTRINSIC QUALITIES

The Kansas Native Stone Scenic Byway provides a relaxing experience where nature is predominant. Along the route extending through Shawnee, Wabaunsee, Riley, and Geary Counties, in north east Kansas, there are the wonderments of the rolling Flint Hills, the Kansas River Valley and its fertile farmland, unique stone structures and fences, and the history of the Bleeding Kansas and the Underground Railroad.

### Natural Resources

- Echo Cliff Park
- Eskridge City Park
- Lake Wabaunsee
- Flint Hills
- Mount Mitchell Heritage Prairie
- Kansas River National Water Trail
- Pillsbury Crossing Wildlife Area
- Fremont Point
- Konza Prairie



## **Echo Cliff Park**

Visitors will enjoy the quiet serenity of **Echo Cliff**, west of Dover, where they may still find artifacts along Mission Creek. The Dover Grange maintains the park. Tables and stools cast from concrete are available for picnics. An original iron bridge, now a walking bridge, crosses the creek. The park also offers rock climbing, trail rides, hiking, bicycling and fishing

## **Eskridge City Park**

**Eskridge City Park** is located one block south of the intersection of K-4 Highway and Main St. The park includes a bandstand and paved area for dancing, picnic tables, play equipment, and lighted tennis courts.

## **Lake Wabaunsee**

Wabaunsee County Park was deeded to the City of Eskridge in 1937. The park evolved into a beautiful spring-fed lake, **Lake Wabaunsee**, also known as "*Gem of the Flint Hills*." The park/lake was a 1933 WPA project by the Federal Government, and later served as a German Prisoners of War Camp in the 1940's. Today, many nice homes surround the lake's perimeter. Public picnic grounds, boat docks and a designated swimming area are on the north side of the lake.

**Wabaunsee Pines Golf Course** is a 9-hole public golf course located on the south side of Lake Wabaunsee. Volunteer labor built and maintains this course.

The rolling **Flint Hills** provide a seasonal parade of wildflowers and prairie grasses. Redbud trees bloom in splendor in the Spring, followed by the bright orange blossoms of the butterfly milkweed, in the Summer. In the winter, when the trees are stripped bare, travelers get a closer look at streams with natural waterfalls and the remains of old stone bridges. Minimal disturbance of the ecosystem is of utmost importance in keeping nature in balance, protecting the land, wildlife and scenery.

## **Mount Mitchell Heritage Prairie**

This public park is a fifty-acre tallgrass prairie remnant that was originally part of the farm of Captain William Mitchell. Mitchell came to Kansas Territory in 1856 as a member of the Connecticut/Kansas Colony. This immigrant group of Free-state advocates became known as the Beecher Bible and Rifle Colony after being supplied with Sharps rifles and Bibles by the famous Abolitionist Henry Ward Beecher. The park was given to the people of Kansas by one of Mitchell's sons as a memorial to Captain Mitchell and the members of the Connecticut Kansas Colony. A monument to them is at the summit of the park.

Soon after their arrival Captain Mitchell was elected leader of the Wabaunsee Prairie Guards, the local Free-state militia. After the colonists, built homes and brought their

families to Kansas they began operating a system of safe houses on the Underground Railroad, which was active here between 1857 and 1861.

The park is a Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area Star Attraction and a National Park Service Network to Freedom Site. Ruts and swales from the historic Topeka-Fort Riley Road traverse the property. The park is operated and managed by the local non-profit Mount Mitchell Prairie Guards, who have developed and maintained the park for the community and visitors. Its tallgrass prairie and historical significance are popular among teachers and the park hosts many educational activities. (Michael Stubbs – Mount Mitchell Prairie Guards)

### ***Kansas River National Water Trail***

The **Kansas River** is also known as the Kaw. Its name (and its nickname) comes from the Kanza (Kaw) people who once inhabited the area. The state of Kansas is named for the tribe.

One of the world's longest prairie rivers The Kansas River National Water Trail was designated as a National Water Trail on July 14, 2012, the second river to be added to the National Water Trail system. The Kansas River begins at the confluence of the Republican and Smoky Hill Rivers near Junction City and flows 173 miles to Kansas City where it joins the Missouri River. The Kansas River watershed drains almost the entire northern half of Kansas and part of Nebraska and Colorado (53,000 square miles). The major cities along the Kansas River include Junction City, Manhattan, Topeka, Lawrence and Kansas City. Access points near the Native Stone Scenic Byway are located at Wamego, Belvue, and Manhattan. For further information visit: <http://kansasriver.org>

### **Konza Prairie**

The **Konza Prairie** is 8,600 acres of quiet rolling hills, marked with flint and limestone outcroppings. The Nature Conservancy owns the land and Kansas State University, Division of Biology, manages the property. Extensive prairie ecosystem research is conducted on the Konza Prairie. There are varied trail lengths beckoning hikers to explore the scenic vistas and natural wildlife. Experiencing the prairie is unique for the visitor, as it is within the largest tallgrass prairie ecosystem in the world.

The scenic overlook on Highway 177, on the eastern edge of the Konza, has a breathtaking vista of the property and interpretive signage. For further information visit: The Nature Conservancy

### **Scenic Resources**

- Agricultural Countryside
- Tallgrass Prairie
- Panoramic Views and Vistas

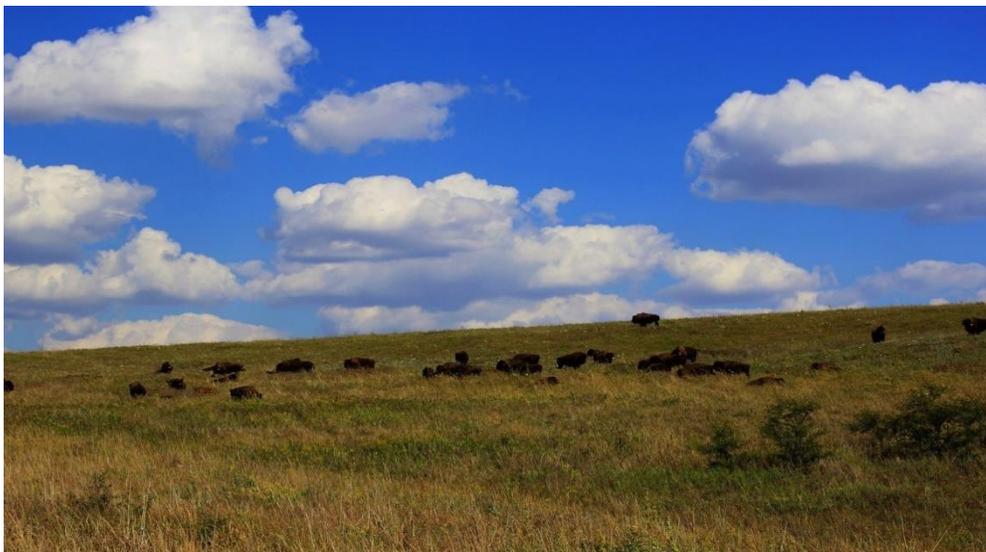
- Rolling Hills
- Spring and Fall Foliage
- Prairie Grass and Wildflowers
- Working Farms and Cattle Ranches

### **Scenic Resources**

When traveling the “Native Stone Scenic Byway,” the visitor is rewarded with panoramic views of Kansas land in its native state, and the rich land that was cultivated for agrarian life. Due to the many natural rock deposits, part of the land along the byway is more suitable for raising cattle. In contrast, parts of the byway will stand out like a patchwork quilt with growing fields of corn, soybeans, wheat, alfalfa, milo, and brome.

### **Plumlee Buffalo Ranch**

The Plumlee Buffalo Ranch is a 400-acre ranch in the Flint Hills. Located on the southwest corner of Interstate 70 and K-99, exit 328. Over the past several years they have been creating bison breeding stock that is unparalleled in the country. The owners enjoy working with these majestic animals due to their low maintenance, healthy meat, and the fascination they bring to countless adults and children who want to experience a farm first hand. ([plumleeranch.com](http://plumleeranch.com))



## **Alpacas of Wildcat Hollow**

Alpacas in Wildcat Hollow lies nestled in the Flint Hills on the banks of Mission Creek in eastern-central Kansas. The farm has a total of 88 acres of land that includes the home site and barn lot, paddocks, forest, pasture and hay fields. There is a new barn with plenty of room for their herd to grow. Currently there is a herd of ten alpacas, four breeding females, two maidens, one herd sire, two junior herd sires and one companion/fiber male. Their herd enjoys daily personalized attention and nurturance. Their herd is guarded by two Maremmas, Italian guardian dogs, bred to protect.

Alpacas in Wildcat Hollow had its first Farm Day June 12th of 2005 and continue to operator as an agritourism business.

Wildcat Hollow provides fiber to the Harveyville Project's Fleece and Fiber Seminar where fiber from various animals is processed and spun, including alpacas. Participants will tour Alpacas in Wildcat Hollow and meet the original owners of the fiber!

Hours: By Appointment Only - Contact: Ed & Marta Howe  
<http://alpacasofwildcathollow.com/> howe2206@gmail.com  
23224 Wildcat Hollow Eskridge, KS 66423 (785-449-2206 )

## **Historic Resources**

- Kansas State Capitol Building, Topeka (See Side Excursion)
- Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site (See Side Excursion) (U.S. National Park Service)
- Kansas Museum of History, Topeka (See Side Excursion)
- Southwest Trail
- 1878 Historic Sage Inn
- Sommerset Hall
- Keene Cemetery
- Missile Base Adventure @ Subterra Castle (former Atlas E Missile Base)
- Keene Town site (Ghost town)
- Waugh Bank Building
- Stone Fence Structures
- Sump Barn
- Alma, City of Native Stone



- Wabaunsee County Courthouse
- Alma Hotel
- 1898 Hinerville One-Room Schoolhouse (Native Stone)
- Mount Mitchell Heritage Prairie
- Captain Mitchell's Homestead (See Side Excursion)
- Wabaunsee Cemetery
- 1859 Beecher Bible and Rifle Church (Native Stone)
- 1896 Zeandale Community Church (Native Stone)
- Fremont Point
- Meacham/Barr Log Cabin (See Side Excursion)

### **Southwest Trail**

K-4 Highway the first paved highway in our state in the early 1920's. It was a primary east-west roadway extending from Leavenworth to Colorado. The origin of this road was a trail that went from Ft. Leavenworth to Council Grove, Kansas called "*The Southwest Trail*," (referring to its direction from the Fort). By 1861, some citizens referred to it as the "*Topeka-Council Grove Road*." It was this same route the Kansa Indians traveled back and forth to Topeka to receive government subsidy. A 1918 official Kansas road map refers to the road as the "*The South West Trail*," changing in Council Grove to the name, "*The Bee Line*" as it continues to Colorado.

### **1878 Historic Sage Inn**

Dover has two historic landmarks built by its founder, Alfred Sage: **The 1878 Sage Inn & Stagecoach Station and Sommerset Hall** (Cafe). In 1865, Alfred Sage built the Sage Inn from native limestone where Mission Creek was shallow enough to ford wagons across on the Southwest Trail (northwest corner of Dover intersection on K-4 Highway). The Inn served as a stage station after Copp's Station in Mill Creek Township burned during the Civil War. In 1878, the Inn was doubled in size when the Sage's contracted with the Southwestern Stage Company. The Sage Inn has been completely restored and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982.

### **Sommerset Hall**

In 1900, Alfred Sage built a two story, wood frame building, across from the Sage Inn. The first floor served as a mercantile, the upper floor served as a town hall, including the meeting place for the I.O.O.F. Lodge. In 1905, the lodge purchased the building after Sage's death, and although they no longer own the building they continue to meet there.

**Sommerset Hall** gained national recognition in 2008 when their pie baker,

Norma Grubb, won a *Good Morning America* Contest, “Best Pie in America”. Sadly, Norma passed away in 2011, but her legacy and the recipe for her famous coconut cream pie, is still used at the Dover café today.



### **Norma Grubb, Winning Pie Baker**

May 28, 1920 - March 28, 2011

### **Keene Cemetery**

**Keene Cemetery**, formerly known as Mission Creek Township Cemetery, on K-4 Highway east of Dover, may be one of the earliest cemeteries in the Kansas territory. Long before the land was surveyed and the boundaries marked for an official cemetery with oversight by the township (1885), people were interred at this site, simply known as the "**Graveyard at Mission Creek.**" The cemetery has several unmarked graves, many are of early settlers from the area. It is also the final resting place for many of our veterans, as well as, graves of local abolitionists, who were dedicated to the cause of the Underground Railroad.

### **Atlas E. Missile Launcher**

The **Atlas E. Missile Launcher** at Keene now serves as a private residence. Built in 1961 for the U.S. Air Force, a cradle held an Atlas missile (75 feet long by 10 feet in diameter) in a horizontal position until the 400-ton door was opened to raise the missile for launching. The original manned station and other parts of the launcher, have been preserved, as well as, their collection of memorabilia. Tours provided by reservation only.

The owners open their unique home by reservation only for public tours.

Ed Peden, (785-256-6029) [www.subterrastcastle.com](http://www.subterrastcastle.com)

### **Missile Base Adventure @ Subterra Castle (former Atlas E Missile Base)**

The **Subterra Castle** Private room in Eskridge, Ks, US. All are welcome at Subterra Castle, a former Atlas E missile base transformed into an underground home. Whether you are a history buff, or just want a unique place to pass the night, your experience is sure to be unforgettable! [www.airbnb.com/rooms/15758095](http://www.airbnb.com/rooms/15758095)

### **Keene Town site (Ghost town)**

Keene was once a thriving small town with a store, gas station, school, blacksmith shop and meeting hall, now just a few houses located along the highway. Of note, the first store at Keene was located south of the highway about a half mile. Known as the Fremont house, the store was an early Indian trading post. (Courtesy of the *Flint Hills SPECIAL*, by Greg Hoots)

### **Waugh Bank Building**

The Waugh family from Eskridge has been engaged in many types of enterprises through the years: banking, farming, oil, merchandising, law, medicine and engineering. Eskridge's most prominent landmark is the **Security State Bank Building**, 101 S. Main, built in 1904 by John Waugh. The beautiful brick building sports a turret and columned arches at the entrance. John Waugh was joined by his brother, George, in his banking venture. The bank operated for 76 years, until it merged with the Eskridge State Bank. The Waugh family continues to use this historic building as a law office.

### **Stone Fence Structures**

In 1867, a law abolishing the open range provided for payment of \$.40 per rod for landowners to build and maintain a 4 ½ foot stone fence. Stone was plentiful and our pioneers built miles of fences, many may be seen traveling north on K-99 Highway, from the K-4/99 Junction, through Alma to I-70.

The Native Stone Scenic Byway Committee began a program in 2007 to restore dry stack stone fences along the byway. The committee hosts workshops in the spring and the fall. These restoration workshops remain one of the most important projects for our byway.

### **Henry Sump Barn**

The 1905 Henry Sump Barn on Highway 99 south of Alma, is a spectacular example of the quality of workmanship that can be found in limestone barns along the byway. The huge barn south of Alma is made from lumber (painted red) and native limestone. Unfortunately, the barn can no longer be seen from the highway.

View by appointment only.

### **Alma, City of Native Stone**

**Alma, "City of Native Stone,"** sprung up from the Alma Township in 1857. The area was a central point for tributaries of Mill Creek: South Branch, West Branch, East Branch, and Hendricks Creek.

It has a rich Native American history, at one-time home to the Pottawatomie and Kansa tribes. When the Indian Reservations were opened, the Pottawatomie were in the northern part of the county and the Kansa was in the southern part. The area was quickly settled by German Immigrants moving west from the eastern coast of the U.S.

Approximately 85% of Alma's business district is comprised of native stone structures dating to the late 1800's. In 2007, Alma's business district became a listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

### **Wabaunsee County Courthouse**

A majestic building, the **Wabaunsee County Courthouse**, 215 Kansas Avenue, in Alma, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Built in 1931 the Courthouse is constructed of native limestone and Carthage stone. The Carthage stone gives facing exterior the appearance of granite. Italian workers decorated the interior using terrazzo on the floors and includes a second-floor map of Wabaunsee County. Stairways, handrails and corridor walls are marble.

### **Alma Hotel**

Built of native stone in the late 1887, the **Alma Hotel** was originally known as the Brandt Hotel. This hotel was shelter for the railroad crews who were building the Chicago, Kansas and Nebraska (CKN) Railroad, as they drove its mainline westward through the Mill Creek Valley. At one time, the hotel was refurbished with antique furniture, making it a pleasant and quaint place to eat.

The current owner is in the process of another renovation hoping to open the old hotel again, as a Bed & Breakfast. It is located on the northeast corner of 4<sup>th</sup> and Missouri in Alma. [www.flickr.com/photos/pforty/2116244441/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/pforty/2116244441/)

### **1898 Hinerville One-Room Schoolhouse (Native Stone)**

This was originally a one-room schoolhouse, built in 1898, district #15. Home to various retail businesses through the years. New owners of the schoolhouse plan to renovate and utilize the building as an event venue, located at Hinerville Road and K-99 Highway. (Courtesy of Wabaunsee County Museum)

### **Wabaunsee Cemetery**

This cemetery, on K-18 Highway, east of the unincorporated town of Wabaunsee, is rich in pre-civil war history. It is the final resting place of over sixty Civil War Veterans and former slaves. Interred here are seventeen participants in the Underground Railroad

from the Smith, Lines, Bisby, Kelsey, Platt and Mitchell families, including station operators Captain William Mitchell and his sister Agnes. Others interred in the Mitchell plot are his wife Mary and daughter Maude, who was a nationally known artist, painter, musician and composer. The entrance to the Wabaunsee Cemetery, constructed of Sioux quartzite glacial boulders, was designed by Maude Mitchell and funded by the Old Settlers Association.



Also, buried here is Ethel Mae (Morrow) Morgan, a woman known for her participation in the revival of the Beecher Bible & Rifle Church. She spent the latter part of her life preserving the memory of other African-Americans families in Wabaunsee and Riley County. Ethel's grandfather, Sylvester Morrow, born into slavery in Kentucky, escaped his master when just six years old and made his way to Mission Creek Township, near Dover.

The Underground Railroad was successfully operated in Wabaunsee County between 1857 and 1861. The three communities involved were Harveyville, Mission Creek and Wabaunsee. Several families in each of these places sheltered enslaved people seeking their freedom. They helped them on to the next stop on their way to Canada through Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois and Michigan.

Peter McCutcheon, the subject of a novel by the author Fannie Howe titled, "The White Slave," is also buried in the Wabaunsee Cemetery. McCutcheon spent most of his life enslaved in Missouri, and only after the Civil War was he able to start a new life with his family in Kansas. (Michael Stubbs)

### **The Beecher Bible and Rifle Church**

Organized as the non-denominational First Church of Christ at Wabaunsee in the summer of 1857, construction of the present native limestone and walnut church at

Chapel and Elm Streets began in 1859 and was dedicated in 1862. The church soon became one of the largest and most influential Congregational churches in Kansas. The Wabaunsee Townsite failed to prosper, and after World War I services were no longer held in the church. In 1932, an “Old Settlers Association” was formed to rescue the building from decay. In honor of its history, they decided to name it the Beecher Bible and Rifle Church, after Henry Ward Beecher, the abolitionist minister from Brooklyn, NY who had made the Connecticut/Kansas Colony of Free-state immigrants famous during the turbulent days of Bleeding Kansas when he helped supply them with Sharps rifles and Bibles.



The Church was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1971. Services resumed in 1950 and are still held today, as is the annual “Old Settlers Day” on the last Sunday in August. (Courtesy of Michael Stubbs – Mount Mitchell Prairie Guards)

### **The Zeandale Community Church**

This native stone church was built in 1896 on land donated by C. T. Shipps, while others in the area donated time, labor and material. The structure is located just north of K-18 Highway on Tabor Valley Road, in Zeandale.

The community of Zeandale was settled in 1855. Josiah Pillsbury gave Zeandale its name, combining the German word for corn “Zea” and the English word meaning dale or valley, hence the name Zeandale, meaning Corn Valley.

<http://www.zeandalecc.org/history.html>



### **Zeandale Community Church**

#### **Fremont Point**

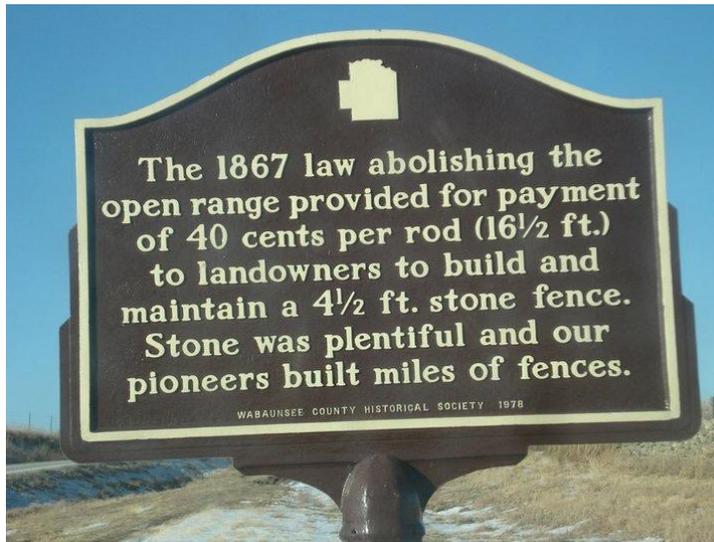
Known as “The Pathfinder,” John Charles Fremont led five government expeditions of exploration through the west between 1841 and 1853. On his second trek, in 1843, he explored the south side of the Kansas River on his way to the Pacific. His expedition left the high ground south of Mount Mitchell and came down its flank into the Kansas River valley.

While exact locations are hard to pin down from his records, it is thought that he camped on Deep Creek near Zeandale on June 5<sup>th</sup>. Eight miles west of Zeandale, on K-18, or two miles east of the junction of Highways K-177 and K-18, is a high promontory above the river valley known as Fremont Point. Official records of the expedition do not mention this landmark, but Fremont was known to frequently travel ahead of his main party making side trips that piqued his interest, so he may well have climbed what he considered a good lookout position. In any case he certainly passed within yards of it and the hill has been known as Fremont’s Point for as long as anyone can remember.

Another notable feature of the hill is that it is the site of a Native American burial mound that dates to the Woodland period, 250BC to 1000AD. The hill is on private property and is not accessible to the public. (Michael Stubbs)

## Historical Markers

- Stone Fence Historical Marker (1½ mile north of the K4/99 Junction, west of Lake Wabaunsee.)



- Mount Mitchell Heritage Prairie Marker (Mitchell Prairie Lane and K-99 Highway)
- Beecher Bible and Rifle Church Monument (K-18 Highway & Elm St in the Wabaunsee Townsite.)

## Cultural Resources

- Shawnee County Historical Society, Topeka, KS
- Kansas Museum of History and Research, Topeka, KS
- Jim Cook Art Studio & Gallery, Trusler Building, Eskridge, KS
- Murals at Buffalo Inn, Eskridge, KS
- Wabaunsee County Historical Museum, Alma, KS
- Railroad Park, Alma, KS
- Riley County Historical Museum, Manhattan, KS (See Side Excursion)
- Goodnow House State Historical Site, Manhattan, KS (See Side Excursion)
- Wonder Workshop, Manhattan, KS (See Side Excursion)
- Wolf House Museum, Manhattan, KS (See Side Excursion)
- Pioneer Log Cabin, Manhattan, KS (See Side Excursion)
- Geary County Historical Museum, Junction City, KS (See Side Excursion)

- Fort Riley Military Post, Ft. Riley, KS (See Side Excursion)
- U. S. Cavalry Museum, Ft. Riley, KS
- Flint Hills Discovery Center, Manhattan, KS (See Side Excursion)
- Aggieville, Manhattan, KS
- Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS
  - Kansas State Gardens (See Side Excursion)
  - Kansas State Insect Zoo (See Side Excursion)
- Manhattan Christian College, Manhattan, KS
- Manhattan Arts Center, Manhattan, KS
- Strecker-Nelson Gallery, Manhattan, KS
- Beach Art Museum at KSU, Manhattan, KS

### **Cultural Resources**

**Jim Cook Art Studio & Gallery** houses many oil paintings of the beautiful Flint Hills, in all seasons. Paintings and sculptures made by his wife and daughter are also on display. This gallery is in Eskridge, in the historic Trusler Building, on Main Street. Open by appointment.

**The Buffalo Inn** is a local bar on main street in downtown Eskridge, Ks. The walls are lined with various antiques from the owner's collection. There is a massive buffalo head mounted above the mirrored antique back bar. The opposite wall has hand-painted murals, one of downtown Eskridge as it looked prior to 1890. The second mural is of a native American on horseback, with spear in hand, hunting buffalo in the Flint Hills. Both murals were painted by Marilyn Daley.

**Railroad Park** at the south end of Alma, is at the site of the former Rock Island Depot. The land is still owned by the railroad. The park includes a small stone building that houses a hand dug well. Also, moved to that location in the park, is a restored 1800's log cabin and Millinery Shop. Visitors may see the interior from the front porch. The park buildings may be open for tours through the Economic Development Office.

### **Recreational**

- Topeka Zoo, Topeka, KS (See Side Excursion)
- Evel Knievel Museum, Topeka, KS (See Side Excursion)
- The Kansas Children's Discovery Center, Topeka, KS (See Side Excursion)
- Combat Air Museum, Topeka, KS (See Side Excursion)
- Mission Creek Lodge at Ravenwood, Dover, KS
- Maisie DeVore Public Swimming Pool, Eskridge, KS
- Lake Wabaunsee, Eskridge, KS
- Wabaunsee Pines Golf Course, Eskridge, KS

- McKnight Park, Alma, KS
- Alma Public Swimming Pool, Alma, KS
- Mount Mitchell Walking Trails, Alma, KS
- Fairmont Park, Manhattan, KS
- Wildwood Outdoor Adventure Park, Manhattan, KS
- Konza Prairie Walking Trails, Manhattan, KS
- Flint Hills Discovery Center, Manhattan, KS (See Side Excursion)
- Tuttle Creek (See Side Excursion)
- Milford State Park (See Side Excursion)
- Sunset Zoo, Manhattan, KS (See Side Excursion)

### **Recreational**

**Mission Creek Lodge at Ravenwood**, is an 1863 native stone guest house, nestled on the hunting grounds among 100-year-old oak trees and blends into a tranquil setting promising a refreshing step back to the splendor of the 1800's and the great outdoors.

At early sunrise or evening dusk, setting in the porch swing, you can usually see deer and wild turkey. Sounds of lonesome coyotes and horned owls fill the air.

Business seminars, guided hunts, sporting clay, lodging, weddings and romantic getaways, are just some of the ways that the customers utilize the facilities at Mission Creek Lodge. Located 1½ miles north of Dover on K-4 Highway. ([Ravenwoodlodge.com/mission-creek-lodge.html](http://Ravenwoodlodge.com/mission-creek-lodge.html))

**Maisie DeVore Public Swimming Pool**, is located at 104 Maple, in Eskridge. For 30 years, Maisie collected aluminum cans. She financed the pool for Eskridge youth by collecting 6 million aluminum cans, equaling 90 tons and \$83,000.00. The pool opened in 2001, when Maisie was 83.

Maisie received the prestigious National Jefferson Award for Community Service for the pool project and a portion of our byway, between Keene and Eskridge is dedicated as the "Maisie DeVore Highway".

**Lake Wabaunsee**, 7 miles west of Eskridge on K-4 Highway, offers boating, swimming, fishing, camping and a 9-hole golf course at the Wabaunsee Pines, on the south side of the Lake.

**McKnight Park**, is a sports complex that includes ball fields, soccer fields and tennis courts. It is 1/8 mile south of Alma on K- 99. It also offers RV hook-ups, picnic tables and restrooms.

**Alma City Park**, is located one block east of the business district. It has a paved walking path around its half-block perimeter. Families can also enjoy a large shaded playground area. The park has a nice public swimming pool with a bath house and restrooms. The native stone park house, north of the pool, was restored and occasionally has entertainment on the side porch.

**Mount Mitchell Heritage Prairie**, located at K-99 and Mitchell Prairie Lane. Two miles of walking trails allow visitors to experience this tallgrass prairie remnant of remarkable biological diversity with its stunning views of the Kaw River Valley.

**Fairmont Park**, is a 110-acre tract of land between the NE intersection of K-177 Highway and the Kansas River. This park is a unique riverfront site with abundant natural habitat, wide open spaces and large trees. Recreational opportunities such as disc golf, soccer, football, a dog park and a riverfront trail are available in the park. <http://www.rileycountyks.gov/356/Fairmont>

**Wildwood Outdoor Adventure Park**, located at 375 Johnson Rd, Manhattan, KS. This zip line park, consists of 7 zip lines, with hiking trails between each line. You will zip above and through the trees. Your guide shares information on the Flint Hills, the limestone quarries located on the property, and the wildlife and foliage in the area.  
[www.wildwoodoutdooradventurepark.com/contact.html](http://www.wildwoodoutdooradventurepark.com/contact.html)

**Konza Prairie**, Members of the public are allowed on portions of the Konza Prairie through three loop hiking trails (approximately 3, 5 and 7 miles in length). The trails are open from dusk to dawn, wet weather and trail conditions permitting. Guided education tours are available at the preserve.

Dogs, horses, and other pets, bicycles and motorized vehicles are not permitted on site. [www.konza.ksu.edu/](http://www.konza.ksu.edu/)



Courtesy of Aaron Grubb

## **Archeological**

- Echo Cliff Park
- Flint Hills
- Kansas River
- Pillsbury Crossing (See Side Excursion)

**Echo Cliff** is a sandstone bluff along Mission Creek in eastern Wabaunsee County. The sandstone, known informally as the Indian Cave sandstone, was deposited in a river channel cut in the landscape during the Late Pennsylvanian Period, about 300 million years ago. Echo Cliff is a local park, about two miles southwest of Dover. (from *The Geologic Record*, vol. 2.3)

This park has a very rich Indian history, arrowheads can be found, dating back to 800-1000 AD, when the Woodland Indians lived in this area.

The **Flint Hills** of Kansas and the Osage Hills of northern Oklahoma are the last world's most endangered ecosystems.

**Tallgrass Preservation** - This is about the last 4% of prairie remaining in North America. While most prairie has been turned into productive farmland, the rocky uplands made this part of the prairie difficult to plow. With the arrival of the Texas cattle drives in the 1860s, the Flint Hills became a principal grazing region. Since that time, the ranching heritage of this region has preserved the tallgrass in its natural state in many areas

**Natural Inspiration** - The subtle beauty of the Flint Hills has been an inspiration to musicians, poets and artists for generations. It is a place where man and nature have been able to successfully coexist, and it provides many important lessons for us as we work to care for our planet. <http://www.flinthillsdiscovery.org>

**The Kansas River** investigations have revealed a variety of archaeological resources in the Kansas River. Included are Archaic, Woodland, Central Plains tradition, historic Native American, and Historic Euro-American components. Many are prehistoric artifact scatters representing lithic collection stations, workshops, campsites and farmsteads. Former burial sites also exist. Historic sites include a Kansa Indian village, residential, commercial and agricultural Euro American/African American artifact scatters and structures; and a relocated cemetery. ([cityofmhc.com/DocumentCenter/Home/View/7664](http://cityofmhc.com/DocumentCenter/Home/View/7664))

**The Kansas River Trail**, the first National Water Trail begins in Junction City and runs through Manhattan to Kansas City with access ramps in most river communities. A great venue for kayaking, canoeing or fishing.  
<http://www.travelks.com/listing/kansas-river-trail/18817/>



<http://www.legendsofkansas.com/kansasriver.html>

## 2.6 ROUTE DESCRIPTION

### BYWAY NAME

The Native Stone Scenic Byway (NSSB).

The Kansas Native Stone Scenic Byway is a 75- mile long corridor running through the Flint Hills region of Kansas. Along the way, the route passes through four counties, two towns, three unincorporated town sites and one ghost town.  
<http://www.legendsofkansas.com/kansasriver.html>



Travelers will encounter a variety of rural experiences including agricultural enterprises, rolling hills and pasture ground, cultural, recreational and event venues, historic churches and homesteads, ranches, many historic sites, and an abundance of wildlife including the herd of bison on the Konza Prairie

The NSSB is a two-lane paved roadway managed by the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT). This route is divided among the counties with, 8.56% being in Shawnee County and 69.74% in Wabaunsee County, 20.5% in Riley County and 1.20% in Geary County. KDOT does regular maintenance of the road surface, including clearing snow and debris, managing appropriate traffic signage, clearing the ditches and mowing the groundcover where appropriate. The route has several functions. Its capacity includes through traffic, local service, commercial farm, and recreational use.

### **Traveling East to West:**

Beginning at the intersection of Glick Road and Kansas State Highway 4, then southwesterly through the community of Dover, Kansas and due west to the Wabaunsee County Line, all being in Shawnee County, Kansas and continuing west through the community of Keene, thence south, southwesterly through the town of Eskridge, thence west, past Lake Wabaunsee, to the junction of Kansas Highway 99, all being Kansas Highway 4, and turning north along Kansas Highway 99 through the City of Alma, north to Interstate 70. The extension of the byway will continue north under Interstate 70, exit 328 on Kansas Highway 99 to the junction of Kansas Highways 18 and 99. The byway will turn west on Kansas Highway 18 through the community of Wabaunsee, and west into Riley County through the community of Zeandale to the junction of Kansas Highways 18 and 177, then south on Kansas Highway 177 into Geary County and ending at the interchange of Interstate 70 and Kansas Highway 177.

## **2.7 PROJECT AREA**

The NSSB committee has identified the Kansas Native Stone Scenic Byway corridor in the following manner:

- **Length:** 75 miles  
Eastern terminus: K-4 and K-99 highways  
Western terminus: K-18 and K-177 ending at the Konza Prairie
- **Width:** The corridor width is defined as the view shed extending from six to 10 miles on either side of the designated roadway. In general, the view shed represents the driver's field of vision and contains landscape elements that

contribute to the quality of the traveler’s experience. This area extends on either side of the roadway so that a vast array of attractions that are unique to this part of the Midwest can be included.

The project area is intended to recognize the general area experienced by a traveler on the NSSB. It provides a general focus area for corridor activities and events along the byway. It is not intended to exclude sites or individuals beyond its boundaries from participating in the Byway process.

	<b>Miles</b>	<b>Classification</b>
From the intersection of Glick Rd. and K-4 Highway to Dover	6	State Numbered Route
West from Dover to Eskridge on K-4	16	State Numbered Route
West from Eskridge to Lake Wabaunsee on K-4	7	State Numbered Route
West on K-4 to the K-99 junction	6	State Numbered Route
North on K-99 to Alma	10	State Numbered Route
North on K-99 to Interstate 70	3	State Numbered Route
North on K-99 from Interstate 70 to K-18	6.1	State Numbered Route
West on K-18 to Wabaunsee	2.4	State Numbered Route
West from Wabaunsee on K-18 to Zeandale	4.6	State Numbered Route
West from Zeandale to K-177	6.5	State Numbered Route
K-177 South to Interstate 70	7.9	State Numbered Route
Total NSSB	75.2	

	<b>Miles on Route</b>	<b>Percent of Route</b>	<b>Maintained by</b>	<b>Miles on Route</b>	<b>Percent of Route</b>
<b>Shawnee</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>8.56%</b>			
<b>Wabaunsee</b>	<b>52.43</b>	<b>69.74%</b>	<b>KDOT</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Riley</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>20.5%</b>			
<b>Geary</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.20%</b>			

The overall quality of the traveling experience is an important consideration for a byway. One measure of quality is called the Level of service (LOS). The LOS describes operational conditions within a traffic stream, generally in terms of such service measures as speed and travel time, freedom to maneuver, traffic interruptions, and comfort and convenience. In other words, it is a measure of the roadway's adequacy for the amount of traffic present.

Typically, six levels of service are defined for each type of facility that has analysis procedures available. Letters designate each level, from A to F, with LOS A representing the best operating conditions and LOS F the worst. Each level of service represents a range of operating conditions and the driver's perception of those conditions.

In general, these levels are defined as follows:

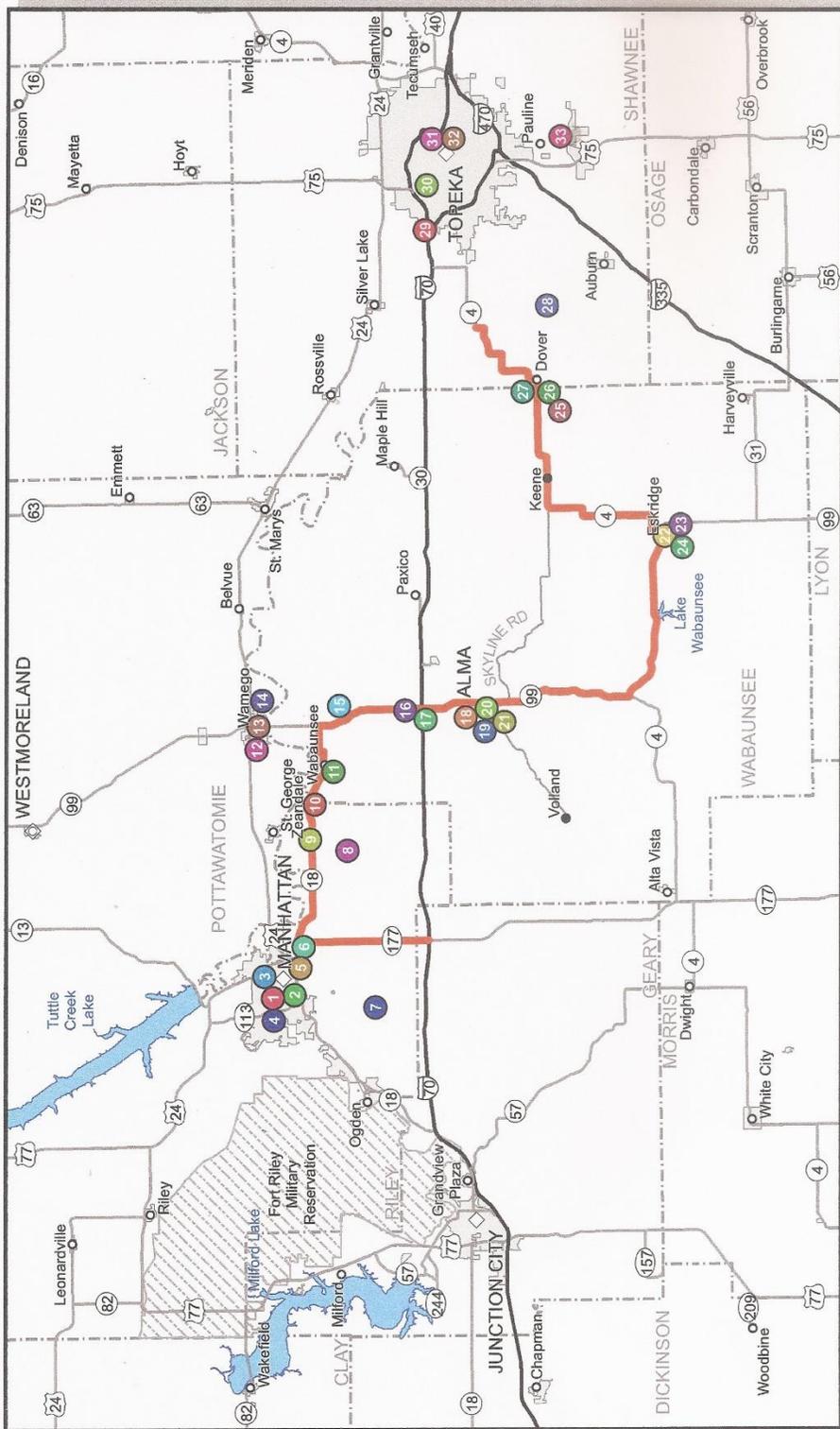
- A – Free flow
- B – Stable flow
- C – Restricted flow, yet stable
- D – High-density flow
- E – Unstable flow, at or near capacity
- F – Forced flow

Here is the Capacity Level of Service (LOS) for the Native Stone Scenic Byway:

<b>Road Name</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>LOS</b>
K-177	I-70	K-18	A
K-18	K-177	K-99	A
K-99	K-18	I-70	C
K-99	I-70	K-4	A
K-4	K-99	Eskridge	A
K-4	Eskridge	Dover	A

## **2.8 MAP**

Primary features and characteristics of the Kansas Native Stone Scenic Byway (NSSB) are indicated on the following map. This map summarizes the NSSB committee's comprehensive intrinsic quality and land use inventory completed for each of the four counties along the corridor.

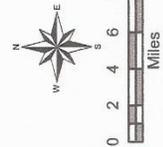


PREPARED BY THE  
**KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**  
 Map Created 5/19/2017

KDOT makes no warranties, guarantees, or representations for accuracy of this information and assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

**Native Stone Scenic Byway**

- |  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Goodnow House                              | 23 Males DeVore Swimming Pool       |
| 2 Sunset Zoo                                 | 24 Murals in Buffalo Inn            |
| 3 Kansas State University                    | 25 Echo Call                        |
| 4 Riley County Historical Museum             | 26 Hall Cade                        |
| 5 Flint Hills Discovery Center               | 27 Sage Inn & Stagecoach Station    |
| 6 Wilkwood Outdoor Adventure Park            | 28 Ravenwood Lodge Hunting Preserve |
| 7 Korczak Prairie                            | 29 Kansas Museum of History         |
| 8 Pillsbury Crossing                         | 30 Cappa Park/Zoo                   |
| 9 Fort Riley Military Reservation            | 31 Dwight                           |
| 10 Metz Barn and Reed Creek Farms            | 32 Historic Downtown Alma           |
| 11 Beecher Bible and Rite Church             | 33 Combat Air Museum                |
| 12 Columbian Theatre                         |                                     |
| 13 Oz Museum                                 |                                     |
| 14 Murals in City Park                       |                                     |
| 15 Murals in Hall Cade                       |                                     |
| 16 Hiram's Schoolhouse                       |                                     |
| 17 Pleasant Buffalo Ranch                    |                                     |
| 18 Wabaunsee County Courthouse               |                                     |
| 19 Wabaunsee County Historical Museum        |                                     |
| 20 Wabaunsee County Historical Military Shop |                                     |
| 21 Historic Downtown Alma                    |                                     |
| 22 Historic Waugh Bank Building              |                                     |



**Native Stone Scenic Byway 38**

## Annual Festivals

**April:** *Ladies Night* is held annually, in April, at the Dover Community Center. This is a fun evening for the ladies, with special themes of interest to women. The spouses of the Ladies Night committee prepare and serve Dinner for attendees.

**June:** *Heritage Days* is the third weekend in June, in Dover. Events include Friday night chicken dinner at Sommerset Hall, a Saturday morning fun-run, pancake feed, two parades, turtle races, kiddies T-ballgame, tractor pulls, team horse-pulling contest, quilt display, food & craft booths, BBQ supper, and fireworks display.

**July:** *The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration* held at McKnight Sports Complex in Alma, includes a hamburger feed, and free ice cream social, followed by a slow-pitch softball game. The grand finale' is a firework display.

**July:** *Lake Wabaunsee Boat Parade* is on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Residents decorate boats sailing in and out of coves during the afternoon. The Fire District #5 provides a spectacular firework display from the dam at 9:00 pm.

**July:** *The Wabaunsee County 4-H Fair* is the last week in July at the Wabaunsee County Fair Ground, 9th & Grand, in Alma. The four-day event includes many exhibits, a parade and 4-H Show.

**August:** *Hot Alma Nights* is an annual classic car show and fundraiser, held the third weekend in August, in downtown Alma. Take a step back, to small town America, nestled in the heart of the Flint Hills. Bring your classic car, park on Alma's main drag and listen to the oldies, while you pass hundreds of restored vehicles. Shop downtown Alma or visit the Wabaunsee County Historical Museum. Vendors will offer food and other merchandise in the City Park.

**August:** *Old Settler's Day* is a homecoming celebration, held annually on the last Sunday in August, at the historic Beecher Bible and Rifle Church, in Wabaunsee, KS. Church members, residents and visitors gather for a church service, a pot-luck dinner at noon, and an afternoon program regarding the historical significance of the area.

**September:** *Eskridge Labor Day Rodeo* is a two-day event, with evening performances only. It is held on Saturday and Sunday before Labor Day. Cowboys from all over come to this MRCA and URA sanctioned rodeo that has continued for over forty years.

**October:** *Native Stone Festival and Mulligan* is the first Saturday in October in Alma. Beginning in the early afternoon, events include a run/walk west of Alma, free old-fashioned Mulligan stew cooked over an open fire in city park, and gospel or bluegrass musical entertainment.

**October:** *Feast of the Fields* In mid-October, Feast of the Fields is a farm to table event located at River Creek Farms near Zeandale. These four courses “chef prepared” dining experience is held in a historic 1876 limestone barn.

**October:** *The Eskridge Fall Festival* is the last Saturday in October. It includes carnival rides, vendors, a parade and floats.

**November:** *The Veteran's Day Parade and Celebration* held yearly in Eskridge in recognition of our nation's veterans. Local veterans, including the American Legion and local patrons participate in the parade. Usually representatives from state and national government are also present. A ceremonial flag burning of retired American flags follows the celebration.



## Side Excursions

**Kansas State Capitol** is located at 8<sup>th</sup> and Van Buren in downtown Topeka. The Capitol building is the state's most important architectural treasure. The site was donated through the efforts of Cyrus K. Holliday, one of the founders of the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway. Construction began on the east wing in October 1866, with construction of the west wing following. Construction on the north and south wings began in 1883. The building was officially completed March 24, 1903. Alfred and Mark Sage, brothers who founded the town of Dover, KS, were both stone masons by trade and worked on the original east wing of the capitol building. [kshs.org](http://kshs.org)



**Kansas Museum of History** This award-winning museum tells the story of the people of Kansas. See the Santa Fe's oldest surviving locomotive, No. 132, from 1880. A. K. Longren's 1914 version of the plane in which he made the first successful flight of a Kansas-built plane in 1911. The museum has been named one of the 8 Wonders of Kansas History. [kansasmuseum@kshs.org](mailto:kansasmuseum@kshs.org)

**Evel Knievel Museum** The world's largest collection of Evel Knievel's authentic performance leathers, jump bikes and memorabilia will be housed in a permanent museum at the Historic Harley-Davidson of Topeka, 2047 SW Topeka

Blvd. The museum will be on two floors of a 16,000-square-foot expansion of Topeka's Historic Harley-Davidson. <https://www.visittopeka.com>

**The Kansas Children's Discovery Center** creates educational exhibit areas in an immersive environment filled with opportunities for a variety of unique learning experiences. 4400 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Topeka, Ks. (785)783-8300), [KansasDiscovery.org](https://www.kansasdiscovery.org)

**Topeka Zoo** is a medium size zoo in Topeka, Kansas. It is located at 6<sup>th</sup> and Gage, within Gage Park. It houses over 250 animals in a number of exhibits, including one of the first indoor tropical rain forest in the United States. [topekazoo.org](https://www.topekazoo.org)

**Brown v. Board of Education** of Topeka, 347 U.S. 483, was a landmark United States Supreme Court case in which the Court declared state laws establishing separate public schools for black and white students to be unconstitutional. <https://www.nps.gov/brvb/>

**Combat Air Museum** at Forbes Field, Topeka, Kansas. The Combat Air Museum has 36 aircraft representing WWI to the present day, as well as a variety of aircraft engines, military vehicles, a simulated field kitchen, a field chapel, a German POW barracks, and military aviation art. [kansastravel.org](https://www.kansastravel.org)

**Bison Herds** -Visitors in the area may find **bison herds** to be of interest. There are two privately owned herds near the Byway: one on the western edge of Auburn, approximately 8 miles southeast of Dover on 89<sup>th</sup> street. The second herd is south of Eskridge on K-99 Highway.

**Alta Vista, Kansas** -12 miles west of the K-4/99 Highway intersection. You will find the Ag Heritage Park with antique farm machinery and a one-room schoolhouse on display.

Alta Vista also has an old jail, sundries shop and an antique store.

**Skyline- Mill Creek Scenic Drive** is a lightly traveled hard surfaced road that cuts across the prairie, winding, through farm land, climbing hills, and following the creek, from K-4 Highway west of Keene to Alma - truly reminiscent of the covered wagon days. For visitors who want to get up close and personal with cows, wildlife, and native grasses, this is an enjoyable, “off the beaten path” experience. From Alma, travelers can also take Mill Creek Drive and go diagonally to Alta Vista, then connect with K-177 and continue south to the **Tallgrass Prairie Preserve**, north of Cottonwood Falls.

**Paxico** - Snokomo to Paxico Road is a different fork at the beginning of Skyline Mill Creek Drive that will take a traveler north via gravel road to the small community of **Paxico**, which is known for its quaint row of antiques shops in the downtown business district.

**Prairie Fire Winery** is located at 20250 Hudson Ranch Rd., Paxico, Ks. At the Paxico exit you will see **Wyldewood Winery Outlet**. Free wine tastings available at both wineries.

**General Walt's Hiking Trail** was established by the Alma Boy Scout's in honor of a four-star general from Wabaunsee County. Lewis W. Walt was born and raised near Harveyville, Kansas. During his distinguished military career/ he was awarded two Navy Crosses, two Distinguished Service Medals, a Silver Star, a Bronze Star, and two Purple Hearts for valor. Information about the life of "General Walt" is available at the Wabaunsee County Museum. The hiking trail winds through the Wabaunsee County hills, beginning south of Harveyville and ending in Alma.

**Captain William Mitchell Farmstead** at 29213 Mount Mitchell Road, Wamego, Kansas.



Recognized by the National Park Service's  
**Network to Freedom Program**  
as an authentic Underground Railroad Station

Captain Mitchell arrived in Kansas from Connecticut with the Beecher Bible and Rifle Colony in 1856. Because of knowledge gained from experiencing the Gold Rush in California and Australia and sailing round the world, he was elected Captain of the Prairie Guards. The Guards fought in some skirmishes in

Lawrence. He was once held captive by border ruffians from Missouri and narrowly escaped being hanged.

“He was an active force in the new community of Wabaunsee, serving as county commissioner and in the State Legislature. He was instrumental in bringing the railroad to Wabaunsee and was generally considered a valuable and beloved citizen.” – Kathryn Mitchell Buster

One of the most interesting things about the house is the dining room. It formerly was the original log cabin built in 1856. The rest of the house was built onto this small cabin. Our home was one of the stations on the underground slave railway. Father and several of our neighbors worked together to send the slaves northward. There was small a loft over the cabin where the slaves were hidden. I’ve made it into my studio and often think of its background when I’m painting there.” – Maude Mitchell – excerpt from a Kansas Farmer publication article.

As the years, have passed and changes occurred to maintain this house as a comfortable family home, we have attempted to protect and preserve the history. In 2007, an original exterior wall of the cabin was revealed giving visitors a glimpse into the workmanship required to construct the cabin. – Michelle Crisler

Glen Lojka, artist and craftsman, carved the image of a Freedom Seeker from a Red Elm tree on the property that was destined to be removed. For group tour information, contact Michelle Crisler 785-456-7763 or [mcrisler@wamego.net](mailto:mcrisler@wamego.net) .

A tax-deductible contribution to the Mount Mitchell Prairie Guards is requested as admission. For more information visit [www.mountmitchellprairie.org](http://www.mountmitchellprairie.org)

## **Volland Point**

**Mill Creek Lodge** at Volland Point on the Claussen Ranch is a rustic 1865 ranch stead located on the scenic Mill Creek in the Flint Hills area below Volland Hill. The ranch was homesteaded by the J. R. Fix Family when they moved west from Pennsylvania after he had served in the Civil War. The couple had 9 children, eight being girls. J.R. was a rancher, farmer, and ran the farm with up to 18 work horses and therefore built not only a large stone barn, but also a three-story stone house with 9 bedrooms. He also had to house hired hands to drive the horses and therefore built two tenant houses, the stone one still remains.

The Mill Creek Lodge has an event center and a large ranch barn available for weddings, family gatherings, and business meetings. The large ranch barn is three stories tall. It features an original entry way that serviced the corn crib which overlooks the hay loft. The hay loft area will hold up to 250 people and the lower horse stall area will hold another 100 people. There is a receiving kitchen (for caterers) in the barn along with multiple restroom facilities. The historic three-

story stone house has 9 rooms on 3 floors with a capacity up to 17 people. The dining room-meeting room will serve up to 50 people. There is a full kitchen in the main house. All facilities have heating and air conditioning including the barn. The tenant suite is on the second story of the stone tenant house next to the three-story stone house. It features a full kitchen, family room, deck, full bath, and large bedroom holding up to a family of 5. There are opportunities to go hiking, take ATV rides, go fishing, and deer/turkey hunting. 34554 Old K-10 Road, Alma, Kansas (785) 765-3300 [www.millcreeklodgevollandpoint.com](http://www.millcreeklodgevollandpoint.com)

### **Volland**

Kansas most prominent ghost town, Volland, Kansas had its roots in the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway, which platted the town located along Mill Creek, in Washington Township of Wabaunsee County, Kansas. In addition to creating a depot, which provided passenger and freight service, the railroad also created a railhead, providing a shipping point for cattle being moved in and out of the Flint Hills pastures.

The Rock Island depot also was the home of the Western Union telegraph station which first provided nationwide communication for the town. Telegraph lines ran along the railroad tracks, and the telegraph office was established in 1887, it was staffed around the clock.

The most important feature in the Rock Island rail yards was the stockyards. The wooden pens built along the tracks, allowed tens of thousands of head of cattle to be transported in and out of Volland for feeding on the lush Flint Hills grass.

For the first 75 years of life at Volland, the Rock Island Railway played a big role in the lives of people who lived in the Flint Hills town. Changes in the nation's transportation system and in the cattle industry caused the railroad to become a much less significant factor in daily life at Volland, yet the heritage of the railroad in the small town is still unmistakable. [wabaunseecomuseum.org](http://wabaunseecomuseum.org)

**The Volland Store** has saved as much of the Kratzer brothers' original structure as possible, and present-day "storekeepers" hope that the Store can reclaim its role as a center of community life where news and ideas are exchanged, and a place where descendants of homesteaders and visitors from Anywhere, USA, can stage meetings, reunions, workshops and weddings, art exhibits, musical performances, equestrian events, and hoe-downs.



**INDOORS The Gallery** - The Gallery is an open space that rises to the roofline, revealing the original second-story windows. Adjustable lighting creates a comfortable atmosphere in which available tables and chairs allow a maximum seating of 80 for dining, 100 for a reception, or approximately 75 for a presentation. Moving an event or part of your event out of doors can substantially expand your guest list. A digital projector is capable of reproducing guests' imagery on the Gallery's Big White Wall, including content from a laptop computer, Blu Ray and DVD, as well as DirecTV. A catering kitchen and two restrooms serve this level. ADA access is available.

**The Loft** - The Loft is a private guest room with its own bath, kitchen and temperature controls. It overlooks the Gallery and the Flint Hills beyond.

**The Lower Level** - The Lower Level retains the original stone walls and windows. It has plenty of open space for workshops, construction projects, art-making, a small business start-up, or anything else that requires well-lighted, mess-proof accommodations. Two restrooms with showers on this level suggest that this space could be used by youth, family, or hunting groups for informal sleeping arrangements with bring-your-own cots or inflatable beds.

**OUTDOORS - The Lawn** will accommodate rental tents for large groups.

**The Clearings** in the woods south of the Ruin are places for dancing and merriment. **The Ice House Garden** welcomes visitors with flowers, herbs, and vegetables that may be harvested for use at events. **The Blacksmith Shop** adjoins a shady picnic area with a barbecue grill close by. Wildflower trails lead through **The Meadow** to the West Draw, a branch of Mill Creek.

**The Pasture** accommodates guests' cars, equestrian events, and field games.

<https://www.travelks.com/listing/the-volland-store/20676/>

**Volland School House-** Volland school is located on Old K-10, (also known as, Skyline-Mill Creek Scenic Drive) south and west of Alma. Volland school was district #26. The original issue date for the ½ acre of land was September 6, 1876.

The date the school was built is not known. It is built of native stone and had the usual two out houses in each corner of the ½ acre. There was a barn provided for the children's and teacher's horses and wagons. They held classes in this building from 1885 to 1957. (Information provided by the Wabaunsee County Historic Museum)

**Grandma Hoerner's Gourmet Foods** is a manufacturing plant located at exit 324 off I-70. A gift store attached to the manufacturing plant offers the opportunity to purchase their all-natural and organic applesauce, preserves, fruit spreads, salsas and BBQ sauce. Visitors can also watch products being made through the special viewing window. <http://grandmahoerners.com/>

**Pillsbury Crossing Wildlife Area** - One of the best-kept natural secrets in Kansas and one of the most scenic areas of the northern Flint Hills region is the Deep Creek Waterfall at Pillsbury Crossing Wildlife Area. Accessible from the Native Stone Scenic Byway either from Highway K-18 at Zeandale or from K-177 at Deep Creek Road, this 59-acre Wildlife Area is managed by the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism. Vehicles traveling on Pillsbury Crossing Lane drive through a few inches of flowing water for about 100 feet. The falls are just a few dozen feet downstream from the crossing and can be reached from parking spots next to the east side of the creek. Caution: during times of high water this crossing is not passable!

The natural limestone outcrop crossing was named for pioneer J. H. Pillsbury, who settled here in 1855. He was a member of the Topeka constitutional convention and of the famous Free-state Topeka legislature of 1856. He was also elected a delegate to the Leavenworth constitutional convention. In June 1863, Mr. Pillsbury moved to Manhattan, where he established the Manhattan Independent, maintaining that newspaper until 1868. In 1869 he was appointed postmaster, and reappointed in 1875. He was also county surveyor from 1863 to 1872.

During normal stream flow, you may canoe, kayak, or take a small rowboat upstream for 1/2 mile. Swimming is prohibited. Primitive camping is available, but only by special permit.

Bird watching is popular and a small hiking trail is provided. There is good channel cat fishing on both upstream and downstream of the crossing. Pillsbury Crossing is one of the few areas in the state where spotted bass occurs naturally. Other fish that may be found are Largemouth bass, bullhead and carp. [kansastravel.org/pillsburycrossing.htm](http://kansastravel.org/pillsburycrossing.htm)

**Chris Barr Log Cabin** - This log cabin is one of the few that can be found in their original location. It was built by Oscar and Martha Meacham in the mid 1850's. What is interesting about this cabin is that it was incorporated intact into a larger house that was built around it. The original cabin was then found years later when the house was being torn down. It was refurbished and restored by the

Zeandale Seniors Citizens in 1992. During the restoration, territorial newspapers from the 1850s were discovered to have been used as insulation on the cabin walls, which helped date the structure.

A sad note to the history of this home is the story of three-year-old Charlie Meacham, who disappeared one day in the fall of 1859. The entire neighborhood searched for him and his disappearance was reported by newspapers across the country. He was never found. The days and weeks passed and it was assumed that the child was not alive as the prairies were burned and there was no trace. The next spring a little skull was found while a neighbor was rounding up his cattle. Doctors determined that it had belonged to a child about the age of Charlie. It was never known if the child had wandered or if gray wolves had carried him off. (Michael Stubbs)

## **Manhattan**

As you travel along the Native Stone Scenic Byways, a “must see” stop near the Native Stone Scenic Byway is the **Flint Hills Discovery Center** located in Manhattan. This \$24.5 million-dollar structure is built of native limestone and dedicated to inspiring the visitor to celebrate, explore and care for the Flint Hills. At the Flint Hills Discovery Center, you will uncover the magnificence and mystery of the Flint Hills, the last major stand of the tallgrass prairie. You will be captivated with the interactive and interpretive exhibits. Be amazed as the wind blows through your hair, sense the smoke from a prairie fire and experience the change of the season. You will be astonished as you experience the beauty of the hills as they come alive right before your eyes!

The Flint Hills Discovery Center is located near the intersections of 3<sup>rd</sup> and Pierre Streets as you enter Manhattan along Highway 177. Open 363 days a year, admission ranges from \$9 for adults - \$4 for youth, children under 2 are free. Military, college students, educators and seniors (65+) have discounted rates. Parking is free and located to the southeast of the entrance to the building.

The Flint Hills Discovery Center will ignite your curiosity as you learn about the significance of fire to the prairie. No matter your age, this very special place, the Flint Hills will soothe your soul as you journey along the way.

For more information on attractions and things to do in the area go to:  
[www.visitmanhattan.org](http://www.visitmanhattan.org)

**Riley County Historical Museum**, 2309 Claflin Road. Exhibits and research library focused on the history of Riley County.  
[www.rileycountyks.gov/museum](http://www.rileycountyks.gov/museum)

**Goodnow House State Historic Site**, 2301 Claflin Road. The Goodnow House, built in 1861, is an important site to the citizens of Kansas. Isaac Goodnow and his wife Ellen were abolitionists who immigrated to Kansas in 1855 to establish Manhattan as a free-state community. Isaac Goodnow was also a founder of what became Kansas State University and was instrumental in developing the Kansas public school system as the first elected Superintendent of Public Instruction. Mr. Goodnow was considered the “Father of Kansas Education.”  
[www.kshs.org/goodnowhouse](http://www.kshs.org/goodnowhouse) or [www.rileychs.com](http://www.rileychs.com)

**Wonder Workshop**, 506 S. 4th Street, Children’s Museum with hands on exhibits and educational programs. [www.wonderworkshop.org](http://www.wonderworkshop.org)

**Wolf House Museum**, 630 Fremont Street. Life of the 1880’s is presented in this native stone home. [www.rileychs.com](http://www.rileychs.com)

**Pioneer Log Cabin**, Manhattan City Park. Featuring pioneer life of Riley County. [www.rileychs.com](http://www.rileychs.com)

**Sunset Zoo** – This zoo is home to more than 250 animals and many manicured gardens. Learn about conservation of treasured animal species. 2333 Oak Street, Manhattan, Kansas. (785) 587-2737 [www.sunsetzoo.com](http://www.sunsetzoo.com)

**Kansas State Gardens** – This kaleidoscopic garden is a horticultural treasure. The gardens are open year-round and in full glory in spring through fall months. 1500 Dennison Avenue, Manhattan, Ks. (785) 532-3271  
[www.k-state.edu/ksugardens](http://www.k-state.edu/ksugardens)

**Kansas State Insect Zoo** – Adjacent to K-State Gardens, this collection gets you up close and personal to creepy crawlies and leggy wonders of the world. 1500 Dennison Avenue, Manhattan, Ks. (785) 532-2847  
[www.k-state.edu/butterfly](http://www.k-state.edu/butterfly)

**Tuttle Creek** - Located near Manhattan in northeast Kansas, **Tuttle Creek State Park** offers visitors a broad variety of outdoor recreation possibilities and plenty of room to roam. The communities of Manhattan, Wamego, Fort Riley, Olsburg, Randolph and Westmoreland offer nearby eating establishments or visitor opportunities. Tuttle Creek Reservoir, the state’s second largest impoundment, offers 12,500 acres of water and about 100 miles of rugged, wooded shoreline to explore.

They offer swimming, boating, and fishing. Cabin rental and camping, hiking, biking, and equestrian trails. Disc golf course, volleyball, and horseshoes pits are available. Canoe and kayak rental, a shooting range, hunting and wildlife watching are also offered. (StateParks.com)

### **Fort Riley**

Fort Riley is a United States Army installation located in North Central Kansas, on the Kansas River, also known as the Kaw, between Junction City and Manhattan. The Fort Riley Military Reservation covers 101,733 acres in Geary and Riley counties. [riley.army.mil](http://riley.army.mil)

### **Junction City**

Located in the heart of Kansas, Junction City offers plenty of small-town atmosphere, big city amenities and rural pleasures. [junctioncity-ks.gov](http://junctioncity-ks.gov)

**Geary County Historical Society & Museums** 530 N. Adams Junction City, Kansas 66441 [gchsweb.org](http://gchsweb.org)

**Milford State Park** - Located on the southeast shore of the state's largest lake, 15,709 surface-acre Milford Reservoir, **Milford State Park** is a favorite getaway for outdoors loving visitors. It is a popular destination for angler's eager for walleye, crappie and largemouth bass, white bass, catfish and small mouth bass. Located northwest of Junction City, west of K-77 on K-57.

There are many opportunities to observe or photograph wildlife on the 19,000-acre wildlife area located on the west side and upper end of the reservoir. The Steve Lloyd refuge contains an additional 1100 acres. The diverse habitats support many species of non-game birds, mammals, reptiles and aquatic life. Nearby Milford Nature Center and Milford Fish Hatchery (both are located below the dam) offer a variety of interpretive exhibits and displays. The lake hosts a large influx of bald eagles in the winter.

Hunters will find a variety of game including quail, pheasant, prairie chicken, duck, goose, rabbit, turkey, deer and squirrel. Trappers are also active throughout the season in pursuit of raccoon, muskrat, beaver and other furbearers. (Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism)

## Wamego

**Wamego**, located on the banks of the Kansas River, was originally a child of the Kansas Pacific Railroad. In 1866 a round house was erected in what is now a picturesque city park. One of the railroad buildings has been incorporated into the Historical Museum Complex. This complex also features a former county jail, one room school, log cabin, old country store and restored Dutch Windmill. A replica of a stone fence, commonly found in Wabaunsee County, was built during the spring Stone Fence Workshop sponsored by the NSSB.

### Wamego City Park (Stone Fence built by the NSSB)



The beautiful scenery and rich agricultural land are a legacy of the area's geologic history - the glaciated region of Kansas. Native Americans used the Kansas River as an area of settlement and avenue of transportation long before whites entered the area. The entire Kansas River Valley was home to the Konza tribe until the 1840's. Beginning in the 1840's major portions of the Pottawatomie Tribe occupied the area just to the east of Wamego. The names of the city and the county are derived from the Pottawatomie Tribe. <http://www.wamego.org/>

**The Columbian Theatre** – This theatre is an active live performing arts center and has been beautifully restored. The ground floor also features rotating art and historic exhibits throughout the year. <http://www.columbiantheatre.com/>

**Wamego's Fourth of July Celebration** - For over 125 years the multi-day celebrations have included a parade, carnival, antique tractor and cars shows and one of the state's largest fireworks displays. <http://www.wamego.org/>

**The Oz Museum** - The wonderful world of Oz lives on in Wamego. The ageless tale of heart, home and adventure is celebrated at the Oz Museum, which displays one of the largest privately-owned collections of Oz memorabilia.  
<http://www.OzMuseum.com>

**Oz Winery** – Located in downtown Wamego, at 417 Lincoln Avenue. Free wine tastings are available.

**Highland Community College Vineyard and Winery** – Located at 500 Miller Drive, Wamego. Highland Community College Vineyard and Winery is the result of the Viticulture and Enology Program at the school. HCC offers degree and certificate programs in both viticulture (grape growing) and enology (wine making). Students are welcome to be non-degree-seeking as well as work toward a certificate or degree. HCC has 4 vineyards, most of which is near Wamego. All total, HCC has approximately 5000 vines including a 500-vine trial plot. HCC faculty and students create four wines in the on-campus winery.  
<https://fromthelandofkansas.com/member/highland-community-college-winery>

**Tulip Festival** - Each spring, the City of Wamego comes alive with thousands of visitors, vibrant colors of tulips and over 150 craft vendors. The vivacious colors of the tulips from Holland are the backdrop for the April craft fair in Wamego City Park. <http://www.wamego.org/>

**Dutch  
Windmill**



**Wamego City Park** - Just two blocks from the downtown business district, the City Park is the pride of Wamego. With its canopy of trees and meticulously landscaped grounds it is consistently rated among the top picnic spots in the state. The Dutch Windmill was moved to the park site in 1924 and restored in 1988 to grind wheat. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.  
<http://www.wamego.org/>

**Tabor Valley** – Tabor Valley is south of Zeandale on Tabor Valley Road. Horace A. W. “Haw” Tabor, Colorado’s Silver King, Senator, and for a time one of the richest men in America, was born at Holland, Vermont in 1830. When he was 19, he left home to work in the stone quarries of Massachusetts and Maine where he learned the stonecutter’s craft.

He came to Kansas Territory in March of 1855 under the auspices of the New England Emigrant Aid Society, a Free-state advocacy group. After reaching Lawrence, he joined several men from New Hampshire who were headed for Josiah Pillsbury’s claim on Deep Creek near today’s Native Stone Scenic Byway in Riley County. After helping Pillsbury build his cabin overlooking the falls that later took his name, Tabor made his own claim further up the creek. Today the area is called Tabor Valley and the prominent hill on his former claim is called Mount Tabor.

Early in 1857, he returned to Maine to marry Augusta Pierce and bring her back to Kansas. Rattlesnakes and Indians too often visited the area and it’s said that Augusta, appalled by the raw ruggedness of the territory and the rough cabin, often fell to tears. They spent the next two years trying to make the farm productive until Horace began to hear stories of gold discoveries in Western Kansas (now Colorado.)

According to Wabaunsee County historian Matt Thomson, who knew the family, in 1859 Horace, Augusta and baby son Maxcy made the difficult journey to the gold fields in a neighbor’s wagon made from the fork of a tree and pulled by oxen. “This would glide over the prairie grass as smoothly as a sled over the snow.”

Following the Republican River Trail, they eventually reached Denver. While the men hunted for food, Augusta tried to keep the campfire alive, often with only buffalo chips, since there was no wood on the high plains. It took them six weeks to make a trip that today could be made in twelve hours.

Horace first prospected close to Denver, but then decided to try his luck farther inland, and in the spring of 1860, they headed to California Gulch, just south of present Leadville.

Their arrival made a curiosity of Augusta, the first woman known to venture into those parts. While Horace searched for gold, Augusta endeared herself to the miners by becoming the camp’s cook, laundress, postmistress, and banker.

They eventually made their living supplying and outfitting gold-seekers, following the various camps that came and went for the next twenty years. They became widely known for their honesty and Horace’s generosity.

In 1877 they were living in Leadville, where they ran a grocery and supply store. Horace was the town’s first mayor and served as postmaster. In 1878 Horace “grubstaked” two German miners who promised him a one-third interest in

any ore their finds produced. It wasn't long before his generosity was rewarded when instead of gold, the two miners found silver in the Little Pittsburgh Mine. Within weeks his share of profits was fifty thousand dollars a month. They invested in the Matchless Mine and were soon millionaires. For Augusta, the story takes a sad turn when Horace leaves her for a younger woman, Baby Doe McCourt. The story of these three has become a classic American saga. It has inspired an opera (*The Ballad of Baby Doe*) and a Hollywood movie (*Silver Dollar*). For the rest of this fascinating story visit <http://www.legendsofamerica.com/co-tabor.ht>

### **3 History of the Corridor**

K-4 Highway became a paved highway in our state in the early 1920's. It was a primary east-west roadway extending from Leavenworth to Colorado. The origin of this road was a trail that went from Ft. Leavenworth to Council Grove, Kansas called "*The Southwest Trail*," (referring to its direction from the Fort). By 1861, some citizens referred to it as the "*Topeka-Council Grove Road*." It was this same route that the Kansa Indians traveled back and forth to Topeka to receive government subsidy. A 1918 official Kansas road map refers to the road as the "*The South West Trail*," changing in Council Grove to the name, "*The Bee Line*" as it continues to Colorado.

Highway 99 is at least as old, or older, than "*The Southwest Trail*." A trail splintering off the Santa Fe Trail in Burlingame, went northwest, crossing "*The Southwest Trail*," and proceeded to Westmoreland in the same location as Highway 99, no name, however, was found for this trail.

There is still a mystery as to whether the village of Dover was named for the White Cliffs of Dover, England or was it named after the town of Dover, New Hampshire? Alfred and John Sage, brothers who had immigrated from near Dover, England, built a cabin on the site of what is now the Dover Cemetery, in the year 1856. Later that same year, Jacob Haskell and his family came to this small village, from Dover, New Hampshire. The Sage brothers lived a short while in New York, and then headed west with their wives Mary Ann & Elizabeth Bassett. In Iowa, they joined abolitionist, James Lane, and took the "*Lane Trail*" to Kansas. It was not until 1870, however, that the town of "Dover" was established. Before that time, people referred to living "up *Mission Creek*" or "down *Mission Creek*." Most of the pioneers that settled here were English.

K-4 Highway goes right through the middle of the *Ghost Town*, Keene, Kansas. Keene is no longer home to any businesses, yet farmers along the road cling tenaciously to the town's identity. Apparently, most of the town was built up around a country school built in 1886. The old schoolhouse sat on the

northwest corner of the intersection. The barn that was used by the school kids to house their horses, still sets at the rear of property. Keene's claim to fame may have been the S.E. Beach Camp, "Veterans Halls", now demolished. The hall was built in 1893 as a meeting place for a group of men whose fathers were Union Veterans of the Civil War.

The town of Eskridge, also known as the "*Gateway to the Flint Hills*" was established in 1869. Col. Ephraim Sandford named the town for Lt. Governor Charles Eskridge, who was one of the founders of Emporia, Kansas, and editor of Emporia's first newspaper. Sandford established the first store in 1868, known as "*The Sunflower Store.*" Early on, the Manhattan, Alma, Burlingame, (M.A.B.) Railroad came to Eskridge, primarily to transport coal, but by 1895 it had become a branch of the Santa Fe Railroad and was used for the shipment of cattle to and from the Flint Hills so that they could graze on the bluestem prairie grass. Eskridge was settled primarily by English immigrants.

Alma, "*City of Native Stone,*" sprung up from the Alma Township in 1857. The area was a central point for tributaries off Mill Creek: South Branch, West Branch, East Branch, and Hendricks Creek. It has a rich native American history, at one time home to the Pottawatomie and Kansa tribes, and was quickly settled by Germans when the Indian Reservation was opened to settlers. One of the earliest homesteaders was Gottlieb Zwanziger who was a surveyor responsible for laying out most of the roads. In the 1880's it also became the crossroads for both the Santa Fe and Rock Island Railroad G.

Still in Wabaunsee County, as the byway proceeds north on K-99 from I-70, the corridor rolls past the Hinerville School, built in 1898. Abundant cattle ranches, high prairies and scenic vistas, can be seen, just as they were in years gone by. As the roadway begins to drop down to the fertile farmlands of the Kansas River Valley, historic Mount Mitchell comes into view.

As the byway turns west onto K-18 and travels not only through the verdant farmlands but also through the area made famous as the Freestaters settled in and built the Beecher Bible and Rifle Church, the townsite of Wabaunsee and most importantly, supported the Underground Railroad.

Riley County's founding occurred during the exciting, volatile years shortly before the Civil War. The Indian lands of Kansas Territory were opened to legal settlement after 1854. Land hungry immigrants poured into the Territory, most motivated by a combination of reasons, ideological with the fight to make Kansas a free state, and financial with the prospect of fortune making in the new territory. The area now comprising Riley County was part of the Kansa Indian reservation, though by 1854 the Kansa Indians no longer lived in the Riley County area. Increased settlement and travel disrupted the lives of Indians living in today's

Kansas and conflicts developed. The Federal Government decided a military fort was needed further west than Leavenworth to maintain order and guard the Santa Fe and Oregon Trails. Thus, Fort Riley was located at the junction of the Smoky Hill and Republican Rivers in 1853. Originally named Camp Center, the fort was renamed in June 1853 in honor of the recently deceased Major General Bennet C. Riley, former Commander of Ft. Leavenworth, Mexican War Veteran, and last territorial Governor of California.

Establishment of the fort encouraged settlement in the near vicinity. The town of Pawnee, intended to be the Kansas Territorial capital, sprang up in the fall of 1854 beside the new fort only to be declared illegally placed on reservation land and closed down in August 1855. The Kansas Territorial Legislature organized Riley County as one of the first thirty-six counties in the state March 8, 1855. Original boundaries were the Marshall county line to the north (thirty miles south of the Kansas/Nebraska border) and the Smoky Hill and Kansas Rivers to the south. The eastern boundary included what is today the western half of Pottawatomie county and the western boundary was eight miles short of today's western boundary line. However, the adjacent territory was attached for administrative purposes to Riley County. Thus, the western boundary actually was to the crest of the Rocky Mountains until Davis (Geary) county was formed in 1857 and Clay county was formed in 1860. Riley County's boundaries have changed through the years. The eastern edge was moved to the Big Blue river in 1857 and when the government survey was complete the western edge moved to its present location eight miles west. In 1860 land between the Republican and Smoky Hill River was added to Davis (Geary) county and in 1861 a strip of land along the south side of the Kansas River was added to Riley County from Davis. In 1871 Zeandale Township was attached to Riley County from Wabaunsee county, but in 1873 the south six square miles were returned. In the last land swap, Davis county took Milford Township in exchange for Ashland Township in 1873. Fort Riley has also had two major enlargements of the 1854 reservation, which took Riley County land in 1942 and in 1965. The Tuttle Creek reservoir project (dedicated 1963) also reduced the size of the original county.

Radiating south from Manhattan was the Manhattan, Alma and Burlingame Railroad, built in 1880 through Zeandale to Alma. The railroad abandoned this line in 1898.

The flood that destroyed the Eureka Lake in 1903 was one of many reoccurring floods in Riley County. Flooding was experienced in 1844, 1867, 1903, 1904, 1908, 1915, 1935, 1945, and 1951 among other times. The 1908 flood changed the course of the Blue and Kansas Rivers creating Hunter's Island south of town on the Kansas River and moving the Blue River east away from the edge of Manhattan. The 1951 Kansas River flood was one of the worst floods in United

States history, to that time, in terms of property damage. It served as a major catalyst for the establishment of Tuttle Creek Reservoir. The idea of the reservoir was not new. First recommended in the 1930's, the project saw renewed interest after each flood. Originally authorized by Congress in 1938, work began in 1952 with an actual appropriation. Residents of the Blue Valley staged a massive resistance campaign against "Big Dam Foolishness" lasting many years. The major flood of 1951 helped defeat that campaign. Dedication of the dam was held in June 1963. <http://www.rileycountyks.gov/441/History-of-Riley-County>

## **4 CONSERVATION GOALS: IDENTIFY AND PROTECT RESOURCES**

### **4.1 OVERVIEW**

Preservation of the cultural, natural, historic, and scenic resources of the NSSB is important for the long-term wellbeing of the Byway. The scenic and natural resources along the Byway are under the control of state and national entities, while the historic and cultural resources are the vision of local entities.

Management of the intrinsic qualities along the byway will involve coordination with existing programs and technical assistance from various resources. The development of new programs, combined with current projects, meet the objectives of the Corridor Management Plan and fulfill the vision established by the NSSB Committee.

**Objective 4a** There are many programs in place to preserve the intrinsic qualities along the Kansas Native Stone Scenic Byway. The existing programs will form a strategy to ensure that the resources for which the route is being nominated to the Kansas Byways Program are protected over time. The preserved sites and management efforts include:

- Eskridge, Alma, Manhattan, and Junction City, Chambers of Commerce
- Eskridge, Alma, Manhattan, and Junction City, City Councils
- Mount Mitchell Heritage Prairie
- Freedom's Frontier *National Heritage Area*
- National Underground Railroad *Network to Freedom*
- Kansas Trails Council
- TravelKS
- Konza Prairie
- Kansas State University
- Riley, Geary, and Wabaunsee County Economic Development Offices
- Dover Community Foundation
- Alma Area Foundation
- US Army Corps of Engineers

## **Existing Technical Assistance**

The area currently benefits from the technical assistance provided by the following organizations:

### **The Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWPT)**

As a cabinet-level agency, the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism is administered by a Secretary of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism and is advised by a seven member Commission. Serving as a regulatory body for the Department, the Commission is a non-partisan board advising the Secretary on planning and policy issues regarding departmental administration. Regulations approved by the Commission are adopted and administered by the Secretary. The driving force behind the Commission's actions are the goals and objectives of managing and promoting the wildlife and natural resources of the state of Kansas. KDWPT manages, Tuttle Creek Reservoir and Milford Reservoir.

The Tourism Division of Kansas Wildlife, Parks and Tourism: Tourism is an important contributor to the economy in the State of Kansas. Business and leisure travelers experience the recreational, historic, and natural advantages of the State and its facilities. Thanks to strong relationships with travel writers, motor coach tour operators, individual travelers, the international travel community, and Internet, the word about Kansas is getting out.

The following programs and services are offered to help Kansas tourism communities prosper in a highly competitive marketplace:

Attraction Development Grants

TravelKS.com (website)

Travel planning assistance is available by calling 1 (800) 2-KANSAS

KANSAS! Magazine

These offerings will be used by the NSSB Committee.

### **Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT)**

The Kansas Department of Transportation is responsible for providing a safe and efficient transportation system to move people and goods throughout Kansas. They are responsible for the state roadway segments of the byway, the Kansas Byway Program itself, and the Transportation Enhancement Program; a source of funds for historic, bicycle/pedestrian, scenic, and environmental projects.

### **Kansas Byways Program (KBP)**

The Kansas Byways Program will assist the communities along the route with the promotion and conservation of the resources that currently exist. They will

provide the technical expertise and assistance needed to secure a National Scenic Byway once the Kansas Byway designation has been established.

### **US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)**

This federal division plans, manages, and executes civil works, military, environmental, and emergency response programs to support the nation's military and engineering needs. They oversee and protect waterways and wetlands along the Byway corridor.

### **Kansas Water Authority (KWA)**

The Kansas Water Authority is a part of the Kansas Water Office. It is responsible for advising the Governor, the Legislature, and the Director of the Kansas Water Office on water policy issues for approving the Kansas Water Plan and revisions thereto, for approving water storage sales, federal contracts, administrative regulations, and legislation proposed by the Kansas Water Office.

### **Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS)**

The Kansas State Historical Society identifies, collects, preserves, interprets, and disseminates materials and information pertaining to Kansas history. The Historical Society states, "Human beings, are by their nature, historical creatures. History is a part of us; it is what we call upon as we identify ourselves and determine where we are going considering where we have been. The Kansas State Historical Society will be recognized by all Kansans as vital to themselves and their communities through the provision of high quality public programs and services which facilitate the understanding and appreciation of their heritage and its importance in shaping the present and fashioning the future." Their resources may be helpful for interpretive projects.

### **League of Kansas Municipalities (LKM)**

The mission of the League shall be to unify, strengthen and advocate for the interests of Kansas municipalities to advance the general welfare and promote the quality of life of the people who live within our cities. Established by municipal officials in 1910, the League of Kansas Municipalities is a voluntary, nonpartisan federation of over 500 Kansas cities. It operates as a public agency and is defined by state law as an instrument of its member cities. The powers and duties of the League are prescribed by state law and in bylaws adopted by the voting delegates of its member cities. They can provide legal advice and technical assistance to the Byway communities.

## **Kansas Association of Counties (KAC)**

The Kansas Association of Counties is a quasi-public agency, which seeks to advance the public interest by promoting effective, responsive county government in Kansas. Founded in 1975 as an instrumentality of its 105-member counties, the Association serves county governments through legislative representation, technical assistance, and leadership and professional education. The Association's mission is grounded in state law and shaped by the leadership of its sixteen-member Governing Board. They too can provide helpful technical assistance on Byway issues.

The NSSB will work to acquaint these organizations with the Byway and this Corridor Management Plan to be mutually beneficial. The NSSB will develop an outreach presentation to present to these and other organizations.

Action: [On-going] **Environmental Program** - Several environmental organizations and programs are active in Kansas. The Committee will work to coordinate efforts with these organizations. A few of the many organizations and programs are listed below:

- Audubon of Kansas
- Kansas Wildscape
- Boy Scouts
- Girl Scouts
- 4-H
- Kansas State Extension Office
- Kansas Byways Committee
- Riley County Planning Board/of Zoning Appeals
- Junction City/Geary County/Milford Metropolitan Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals
- Wabaunsee County Commissioners
- Westar Energy/ *Green Team*
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- Kansas Department Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Kansas Master Naturalist
- Mission Valley High School/FFA, Eskridge
- Wabaunsee High School/FFA, Alma

The NSSB will develop an outreach presentation to present to these and other organizations.

Action: [In-progress] **Identification of Threatened Resources** - The Committee will develop a list of intrinsic resources that are currently threatened, and work to secure their conservation in the most efficient, political, and financially responsible manner. Such sites may include threatened views, natural area, or historic sites.

Action: [In-progress] **Conservation Research** - Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism and US Corp of Engineers each study the plants, wildlife, and environment to conserve the resources of Kansas public lands.

Action: [To be determined] **Historic and Cultural Preservation** – The NSSB will work with existing organizations such as the Kansas State Historical Society along with the historical societies of communities along the byway to identify and inventory the historic and cultural resources along the NSSB. The inventory will be used to develop a preservation plan to schedule activities and identify organizations to undertake the proposed activities.

Action: [To be determined] **Kansas Eco-Tourism Committee** - The Kansas Eco-Tourism Committee is working to develop birding and wildlife watching opportunities in Kansas and to promote tourism based on those opportunities. Birders and other outdoor enthusiasts already use many sites in the Flint Hills region of Kansas.

**Objective 4b.** Preserve the existing nature of our countryside.

Action: To stay abreast of zoning applications or governmental changes to the existing codes that would adversely impact the agrarian feel of the roadway.

Action: Annually, if funding can be secured, encourage, and provide scholarships to youth to go into farming and ranching (agricultural studies).

Action: [On-going] Work with County Extension Offices to educate persons on how to be good stewards of the land, such as crop rotation and pasture burning.

Action: [On-going] Monitor byway to see *if* groups who have volunteered to pick up litter are doing so with enough frequency.

**Objective 4c.** Restore, maintain and preserve old buildings, especially stone buildings and barns, along the roadway.

Action: [Within six months] Members of the NSSBC will be partnering with the “Save The Building Committee” and “The Historic Downtown Alma Committee” to save the historic stone building that burned in the Spring 2016 pasture fire.

Action: [On-going] Members of the byway committee will seek to identify funding for preservation projects.

**Objective 4d.** Save any further stone bridges or walls from demolition or replacement.

Action: Contact the program administrator for the Scenic Byways Program, when first become aware of an issue of concern.

Action: Meet with township, county and state officials, when changes are proposed.

Action: Call public meetings and start petitions, if meeting with the appropriate officials has not brought about the desired action.

**Objective 4e.** Restore, maintain and encourage stone fencing along the roadway.

Action: [On-going] Members of the byway committee will continue our bi-annual stone fence renovation workshops. We have completed 20 workshops since 2007.

Action: [On-going] Members of the NSSBC will meet with prospective property owners to discuss the restoring of their stone fence or building a replica of an original fence.

Action: [On-going] Articles in local newspapers will be used to promote the workshops for the renovation and construction of stone fencing along the byway.

Action: [On-going] Members of the NSSBC will encourage stone masonry apprenticeships by offering scholarships to students in Architectural Landscaping. Also by promoting our workshops to the local Universities, Vo-Tech Schools, and landscaping businesses.

**Objective 4f.** Preserve and promote fishing and fish identification along our byway.

Action: [In-progress] Our committee is currently working with Emporia State University Professor David Edds to plan a Flint Hills Native Fish Tour along Mill Creek.

**Objective 4g.** Promote Barn Quilts along the byway.

Action: [On-going] Our committee has sponsored 2 Barn Quilt workshops.

Action: [On-going] To promote and be a part of the Kansas Flint Hills Quilt Trail.

**Objective 4h.** Gala Fundraiser

Action: [On-going] Hosting an event to promote our Flint Hills photographers, artists, authors, and local businesses, along the byway. We will be hosting our second Fundraising Gala in September 2017.

**Objective 4i.** Attend local and state events to promote the byway.

Action: [On-going] Our committee attends the Kansas State Fair, Kansas Sampler, Staycation event at Fort Riley, Dover Heritage Day, Veterans Day Parade at Eskridge, Christmas Tour, and Hot Alma Nights, where we set up our banners, brochures, and photos, to showcase and promote our byway.

## **5 ENHANCEMENT GOAL: DEVELOP CORRIDOR ENHANCEMENTS**

### **5.1 OVERVIEW**

The Byway experience will be enhanced by projects proposed during the interpretive plan. Each of the projects listed in this section are within the Byway Corridor and will encourage people to come to the area and learn about the natural, scenic, historic, and cultural qualities of the corridor.

### **5.2 ENHANCEMENTS**

**5.2a Interpretive Plan** The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) acquired a National Scenic Byway grant to develop interpretive plans for each of the Kansas Byways. Fermata Inc. was established to assist governments, agencies, states, communities, organizations, and individuals in benefiting themselves of the natural, cultural, and historical resources that surround them. Fermata offers over 30 years of business and personal expertise in the business of wildlife watching, conservation programming, and nature tourism development. Fermata Inc. had the following recommendations in their interpretive plan:

- Develop a theme
- Partner with other Kansas resource venues
- Develop marketable itineraries
- Develop a regional web-based marketing approach

The NSSB will work toward implementation of the interpretive plan for this byway. (In Progress)

**5.2b Visitor Itineraries** The Interpretive Plan for NSSB, recommends the development of themed itineraries for visitors. According to the plan, a themed itinerary “forsakes direct promotion of local businesses and focuses instead on what makes a destination unique and worthy of visitation.”

The theme for the Native Stone Scenic Byway is:

*“From open plains to fenced domains. What the land provides, still remains along the Native Stone Scenic Byway.”*

**5.2c Education Program** The Committee will sponsor or facilitate educational programs on management, planning, tourism, conservation, and design. This may include national programs from the US Federal Highway, State and regional programs such as Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, and the Kansas Byways Program. Also the Committee will look for local experiences of the communities of the NSSB corridor and area leaders will be invited to share successful and innovative projects with the other NSSB communities. (To be determined)

**5.2d Beautification Programs/Adopt-A-Highway Programs** The Committee will coordinate existing beautification wildflower planting and adopt-a-highway programs. Existing local groups will be encouraged to incorporate the byway corridor to their priority project listings. (On-going)

**5.2e Route Markers, Information and Way finding Signs** The Kansas Department of Transportation will provide a Scenic Byway Sign Plan and route markers for the Native Stone Scenic Byway. The Kansas Department of Transportation will install the route markers on state roadway segments of the Byway. Arrangements will be made between the Kansas Department of Transportation and the County Road Departments for route marker installation on County roadway segments.

Additional informational signs will be considered to provide information along the Byway at strategic turnouts for our visitors. This signage will describe the prairie, Flint Hills region, farming, and ranching in the river valley. The NSSB Committee will work with the Kansas Byways Program on sign plans. The Kansas Byway Committee, prior to installation, will approve all signs.

The NSSB Committee will work with the community and special interest groups to identify conservation, educational, and recreational waypoints along places of significant interest on the Byway (Ongoing)

**5.2f Hike/Bike Paths** The State of Kansas completed a master hike/bike plan for each of the Kansas Byways. Hike/bike opportunities already exist in many areas of this byway but much of the Byway has no shoulders and is only marginally suitable for biking. Hiking trails exist at Konza Prairie, Mount Mitchell, Pillsbury Crossing, Fairmont Park, and the Wildwood Outdoor Adventure Park. The NSSB will partner with the State of Kansas for the implementation of this master plan for hiking and biking our Byway. The NSSB committee and the State of Kansas worked together to develop the hike/bike plans. The NSSB committee will work with local committees and communities to implement these plans. (In progress)

**5.2g Natural Resources** While the primary goal of the agencies in charge of the Konza Prairie, Kansas River, The Flint Hills, Echo Cliff, and Mount Mitchell is

to manage habitat for wildlife, they also recognize they have a role to provide visitor amenities and experiences. The Committee will work with the Kansas Department of Wildlife Parks and Tourism and other key organizations to coordinate with and enhance existing amenities and programs. (To be determined)

**Other enhancement goals identified by the Committee are:**

**5.2h** Develop nature based and agri-tourism opportunities and itineraries. (On going)

**5.2i** Encourage communities, attractions, local service clubs and media to include the byway in their marketing /promotional materials and news. (In Progress)

**5.2j** Develop a scenic byway awareness campaign encouraging municipalities and citizens to have pride in their byway and all lands, public and private, within the byway corridor. (To be determined)

**5.2k** Place interpretive signage at the Konza Prairie scenic overlook, and Beecher Bible and Rifle Church. (In Progress)

## **6 ENHANCEMENT GOAL: COMPATIBLE DEVELOPMENT**

### **6.1 QUALITY OF LIFE**

**Community Background** The NSSB Committee recognizes the need to ensure the quality of life is maintained for future generations. Local citizens as well as the NSSB Committee, are also interested in attracting economic development along the byway corridor. The byway committee will work together with the local communities to promote economic development and enhance the quality of life.

**6.1a Model Guidelines for Development** The outline listed below, of the interpretive plan, developed by the State of Kansas, Inc., the NSSB Committee supports the following four recommendations:

- Develop a theme
- Partner with other Kansas resource venues
- Develop marketable itineraries
- Develop a regional web-based marketing approach

The Plan incorporates principles of eco-tourism from the International Ecotourism Society to guide nature based tourism development. Ecotourism should:

- Minimize negative impacts on nature and culture
- Educate the traveler about conservation

- Nurture responsible businesses that meet local needs and deliver conservation benefits
- Spend money for conservation of natural resources
- Develop regional tourism zoning and visitor management plans
- Conduct environmental and social impact studies
- Monitor programs to assess and minimize impacts
- Maximize economic benefits for local businesses and communities
- Hire and train local people
- Pay fair wages and benefits
- Buy supplies locally
- Support local ownership
- Ensure tourism does not exceed social and environmental limits of acceptable change
- Use eco-friendly infrastructure minimizing the use of fossil fuels, conserves plants and wildlife, and blends with the natural and cultural environment.

These guidelines will introduce land planning and address strategies for conservation of the integrity of the land, roadways and sign management, traffic hazards, residential and commercial development, and the conservation of natural resources. Shawnee, Wabaunsee, Riley and Geary Counties have a Comprehensive Plan for general land use and land development regulations in certain parts of these Counties.

Local officials continue to share the guidelines and improve the regulations through annual review by their Planning Board as prescribed by State statute. The Committee will promote responsible development and land use along the corridor, ensuring a level of uniformity for new development and consistency for travelers along the byway.

## **6.2 NSSB ACTIONS**

Visitation will increase with the use of the above interpretive guidelines, materials and marketing exposure, to this area.

**6.2a Corporate Partnering** The Committee is seeking to establish working relationships with corporations, developers, and industries planning or considering projects along the NSSB Corridor. The Committee will assist potential project developers in understanding the role of the byway, encourage development plans that will maintain the features and resources of the region, and provide information regarding local and state resources supportive of quality development. (On-going)

**6.2b Utilities** The Committee will support corridor projects and utility construction along the byway, with the hope that our scenic views are retained. (To be determined)

**6.2c Maintenance** The Committee will notify KDOT when maintenance is needed, and organize volunteer clean-ups of the route. KDOT maintains K-4, K-99, K-18 and K-177, as part of the regular road maintenance schedule. The county resolutions that were passed and are included in this Corridor Management Plan, indicate commitments to maintain these state highways. (On going)

**6.2d Inventory of Visitor Services** In the interest of safety the Committee has conducted an inventory of visitor services along the route. Gas stations, garages, towing services and public telephones have been listed to determine areas in which such services are available. The NSSB Committee will revisit these inventories on a regular basis to ensure the reliability of the information. The visitor services inventory can be found in Appendix A. (On going)

### **6.3 OUTDOOR ADVERTISING**

Signage along the byway corridor is mandated by Federal and State regulations. The Committee will work to educate potential advertisers of the vision and goals of the route and encourage alternative advertising in corridor publications and brochures. (On going)



### **6.4 COORDINATION AND SAFETY**

When necessary, the Committee will coordinate with KDOT and counties to ensure maintenance practices, rehabilitation, and new construction throughout the Byway Corridor will maintain the safety and character of the corridor. (On going)

## **6.5 ACCESS**

Currently, the 75-mile-long Native Stone Scenic Byway is accessible to passenger automobiles for its entire length. As an existing route providing agricultural service to the region, the route has demonstrated its ability to accommodate a reasonable level of commercial traffic and bus service. Some areas of the Byway are suitable for bicyclists and nearby proposed hike and bike trails will provide areas for cycling enthusiasts. The road surface is good, the roads have adequate signage, and maintenance is ongoing.

## **7 VISITOR EXPERIENCE GOALS: ENHANCE AND PROMOTE**

### **7.1 OVERVIEW**

The Kansas Native Stone Scenic Byway will attract both individual automobile travelers and groups traveling in vans or buses. The location in the “Heart of the Flint Hills” makes it an ideal weekend getaway from the pressures of urban life.

The NSSB has value as a destination for the nature traveler. Nature travel is estimated to be increasing at an annual rate between ten and thirty percent (Reingold 1993). Between forty and sixty percent of international visitors travel to enjoy and appreciate nature (Filion et al. 1992). As a long weekend destination, the route offers a unique rural Kansas cultural experience along with scenic vistas, natural areas, and historic attractions. This is all at an affordable cost for budget travelers.

The growing interest in travel to rural and natural destinations promises even greater popularity for the NSSB. Wildlife associated recreation, as opposed to outdoor recreation in general, now involves millions of Americans in hunting, fishing, and a variety of non-consumptive activities such as birding, bird feeding, and wildlife photography. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, during 1996, almost eighty million Americans participated in some form of wildlife-associated recreation activity (USFWS 1997). During that year, more than sixty million Americans enjoyed primary wildlife watching activities such as observing, feeding, or photographing wildlife.



## **7.2 DEVELOPMENT OF VISITOR SITES AND FACILITIES**

To increase the appeal that the Kansas Native Stone Scenic Byway has for visitors, the NSSB Committee will support KDWPT in the development of nature sites as visitor attractions as well as the development of new visitor facilities. Preserving existing nature sites and facilities is equally as important as developing new attractions along the corridor.

**Existing Routing of the Scenic Byway** The Committee has already undertaken an evaluation of the visitor experience along the Kansas Native Stone Scenic Byway. In addition to the Konza Prairie, Mount Mitchell, Lake Wabaunsee (WPA Project), and the Beecher Bible and Rifle Church, drivers along the route will experience panoramic views of limestone buildings, farmsteads, old barns and windmills, farmland, pastures and grassland with native grasses, flowers and plum thickets, grazing cattle and other livestock, trees, woodlands and windbreaks, rivers and creeks, rolling hills, farm ponds and grain elevators.

## **7.3 NSSB ACTIONS DEVELOPMENT OF VISITOR SITES AND FACILITIES**

**7.3a Service Areas** Identifying the availability of the necessary traveler services, such as gas, food, and lodging along the route. Working with the proper authorities, the Committee will continue to work to improve the safety of the existing facilities through landscape development, nuisance enforcement, sign management, and parking improvements. (To be determined)

**7.3b Pull Offs** Additional roadside parks and pull-offs for interpretative facilities and scenic overlooks will be developed as determined by future planning. (on-going)

**7.3c Inventory of Visitor Sites and Services** An inventory of existing historic, scenic, and natural sites, along with lodging, restaurants, gas stations, shops, and public restrooms, and will become available on a database thru the byway website. This site will also have a page dedicated to the NSSB. The database can be used to identify the visitor sites and facilities that are currently offered and will provide information to the general public on the amenities offered along the corridor. It can also be provided to local businesses and organizations so they will be better prepared to provide information to visitors. (To be determined)



#### **7.4 INTERPRETATION PLAN**

Interpretive techniques will be used to tell the unique stories of the Flint Hills region and prairies. Depicting the stories of the rural way of life and the history in the heart of the Flint Hills will be shared. Interpretive techniques will include guided tours, pamphlets, booklets, signage, interactive displays and many other creative enhancements.

The story of the NSSB will be placed in context to the theme developed by the interpretive plan. The theme is:

***“From open plains to fenced domains. What the land provides, still remains along the Native Stone Scenic Byway.”***

This theme will provide the interpretive thread to tie the stories of the corridor together to provide the visitor with a bigger picture of the area's cultural and natural wealth.

### **Existing Programs**

**Hospitality Training** Recognizing the importance of hospitality to the visitor experience, the need for training front-line employees along the corridor has been identified. All communities along the byway corridor will emphasize the importance of good customer service and encourage full participation in the state's "Kansas At Your Service" online training. <https://www.travelks.com/kaysenglish/>

## **7.5 NSSB ACTIONS INTERPRETATION PLAN**

**7.5a Interpretive Plan** To ensure that the story of the Native Stone unfolds for the visitor in a logical sequence, the interpretive plan will be used as the main point of reference. (In progress)

**7.5b Panels and Kiosks** Panels and kiosks will be located along the entire length of the NSSB. These installations will be of standard design, material, and finish to ensure easy recognition by the traveler. In addition to the interpretive themes, the panels and kiosks will also provide reference maps (corridor and local), nearby attractions, and in some locations, provide facilities for local brochures or information desks. Panels and kiosks will be developed to acquaint the traveler with the overall story of the corridor. Local attractions and interpretive programs will continue to exist independently, but the Committee will encourage coordination efforts whenever possible. (On going)

**7.5c Thematic Tours** Thematic tours will be developed that can be used as self-guided auto tours or motor coach tours. (To be determined)

## **7.6 CHILDREN'S EDUCATION AND INTERPERTIVE PROGRAMS**

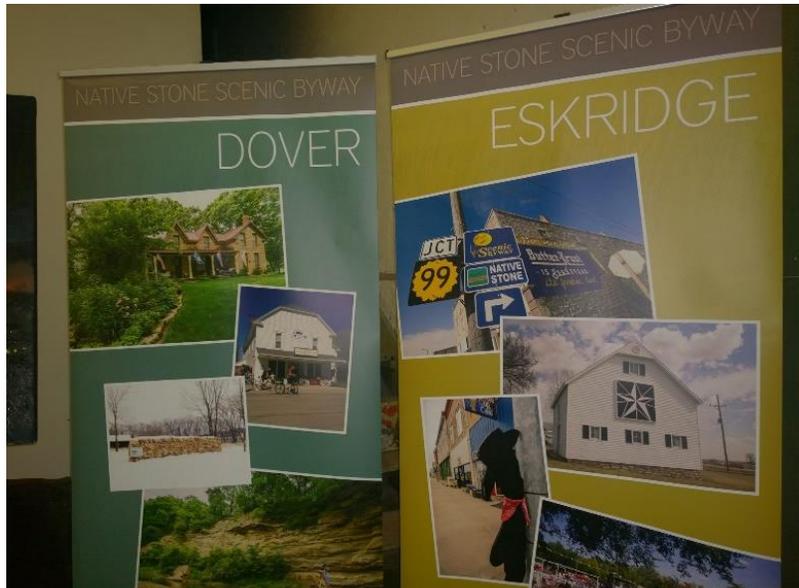
**Classroom Programs** The Committee will promote classroom education with the development of materials about the interpretive themes of the corridor. Additionally, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism has existing classroom programs, on-site conservation and educational youth activities.

**Field Trips** Taking advantage of the rich cultural and natural sites throughout the corridor, the Committee will work to develop programs or facilitate interactions between local schools and the facilities.

## **7.7 MARKETING**

The Committee will structure a marketing and management strategy to ensure that visitors to the NSSB appreciate the transitions and distinctive areas in a manner that is organized and logical.

**Existing Convention and Visitors Bureau/Chamber of Commerce/  
Economic Development Office** The Convention and Visitors Bureaus and Chambers of Commerce and Economic Development Offices located along the corridor already market their communities in travel publications and other promotional materials. However, the Wabaunsee County Economic Development Office in Alma will become the point of contact for coordination of marketing information about the Scenic Byway.



## **7.8 NSSB MARKETING ACTIONS**

**Regional/National Marketing** This byway is included in tourism marketing materials distributed by the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism. The Committee will also work closely with organizations currently marketing the byways.

The Byway is showcased in a driving tour booklet called “Kansas Byways” published by the KDWPT and KDOT. Reference to the Byway will be included in all promotional pieces developed for area tourism. Since some of the communities do not have a paid Chamber of Commerce or Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Wabaunsee County Economic Development Office will be the primary point of contact on the Native Stone Scenic Byway marketing plan for the four-county region. (On going)

**7.8a Marketing Plan** The NSSB will work with the Wabaunsee County Economic Development Office and our Advisory Board to develop a long-range, detailed marketing plan for the area. This plan will address the diverse activities and attractions along the route in a comprehensive strategy for promotion,

management, development, and marketing research. The plan will also propose strategies to monitor travel trends along the route through the development of a visitor profile for the corridor. The NSSB Committee is looking forward to the assistance of the Kansas Byways Program to identify markets and get quality material about the Byway into those markets. (To be determined)

**7.8b Driving Tour Brochure** The NSSB Committee partnering with the community organizations, will develop a driving tour brochure that will identify the route in its entirety, along with information about attractions, scenic/natural sites, services and facilities, and a calendar of events. (In progress)

**7.8c FAM Tours Familiarization** (FAM) tours will be coordinated to attract both nationally recognized travel writers and freelance writers to educate them about the opportunities along the route. There will also be an effort to attract media attention from major national magazines. (To be determined)

**7.8d Media Campaign** The NSSB committee and the Advisory Board will partner with the Wabaunsee County Economic Development Office, the Alma Chamber of Commerce, the Eskridge City Council and the Dover Community Foundation and the Riley and Geary County CVB's to launch a media campaign. The media campaign will include public relations, advertising, and promotions. Future media campaigns will be designed around major events taking place along the Scenic Byway. The Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, and the Kansas Byways Program's media resources will also be used as needed. (To be determined)

**7.8e Press Kits** Press kits with news releases, maps of the route, listings of visitor attractions and services and other appropriate information will be assembled to provide concise and timely response to media inquiries and to be used in media campaigns. (In progress)

**7.8f Package Tours** Tour packages will be created and marketed to target audiences. Packages will be based on interpretive themes and will be designed to extend the visitor experience along the NSSB. (To be determined)

**7.8g Web Based Initiative** The Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism is currently providing a Web site domain for the byway. The byway committee uses Facebook as the main source to promote the byway. A website could be established and include tour options, itineraries, maps, etc. (On going)

**7.8h Outreach/Speakers Bureau** In addition to informing the state, the Midwest, nationally and internationally about the Native Stone Scenic Byway, local communities will need to be informed. The NSSB Committee members currently give presentations to local civic groups and schools. The Committee will consider developing a speaker's bureau program in the future. (On going)

## **8 PROMOTION GOAL: COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT THROUGH ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

This document seeks to recognize the following existing efforts and encourage all communities to review any new developments in the context of the Native Stone Scenic Byway VISION. The development of local goals and initiatives, in coordination with the CMP, will ensure that all communities reap the benefits of the corridor plan, while maintaining the distinct individuality that makes travel in the Flint Hills of Kansas a unique experience.

### **8.1 COMMITTEE STRUCTURE**

The Native Stone Scenic Byway Committee has been established to promote the development of the Native Stone Scenic Byway, secure its designation as a state byway, and work toward the implementation of the CMP. The Committee will function as a board of directors setting policies, charging task forces with their responsibilities, structuring partnerships and cooperative agreements, soliciting support for the project, and making organizational decisions for policy and direction.

The Wabaunsee County Economic Development & Dover Community Foundation will be the designated administrative organizations for this byway. They along with the Committee will assist in coordinating transportation enhancement requests for corridor projects and conduct a five-year review of the CMP. These entities can receive and distribute funds on behalf of the byway committee.

#### **The NSSB Committee includes:**

Sally Stratton representing the community of Alma (Chairman)  
Marsha Ericson representing the community of Dover (Secretary)  
Debbie Bell representing the community of Dover (Treasurer)  
Sheryl Thowe representing the community of Alma  
Brett Kemble representing the community of Eskridge  
Marsha Cook representing the community of Eskridge  
Terry Dykstra representing the community of Eskridge  
Ken Benjamin representing the community of Dover  
Mary Mertz representing the community of Zeandale

#### **Advisory Committee includes:**

Karen Hibbard – Manhattan Convention & Visitors Bureau  
Cheryl Collins – Museum Director, Riley County Historical Museum  
Michelle Crisler – Representing Wabaunsee County  
Morris Crisler - Representing Wabaunsee County

Abby Amick – Representing Wabaunsee County

Committee members will each have one vote on the committee. All Advisory members will be non-voting members. Other Advisory members (non-voting) can be added as the committee deems necessary. The byway committee will not exceed thirteen (13) members.

The Committee meets monthly, or as often as bi-weekly, depending on the needs of the committee. The Committee has been in existence for twelve years and will continue to meet to serve the needs of the corridor as they arise.

Members of the committee will serve a two (2) year appointment. At the end of their term the community/resource/county can ask for their continued representation on their behalf or make a new appointment.

**The NSSB Committee will be composed of:**

**Committee Chair**

The Committee Chair will oversee the meetings, coordinate efforts and work to promote and maintain the vision established for the NSSB.

**Task Force Chairs**

Task Force Chairs will coordinate regional efforts of the various task force areas.

**County Representatives**

County Representatives will coordinate the NSSB Committee activities and projects, coordinate task force initiatives, and serve as a liaison with the local communities and governments within the respective counties.

**Resource Representatives**

Resource Representatives will serve as technical and resource experts providing specialized assistance and administrative support.

**Executive Committee**

The Executive committee will be composed of the Committee Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Committee has established the following short-term goals:

- Build committee structure and create a long-term management structure.
- Implement two or three short-term, visible projects.
- Continue to seek public endorsement of the project.
- Conduct regular reviews of the status of the plan implementation.

The goal of the NSSB Committee is, to ensure that the Corridor Management Plan outlining the NSSB vision is implemented in the most effective and efficient manner. The byway committee will market and promote the byway corridor, via published brochures, purchasing ads, attracting group tours, arranging magazine articles, and conducting visitor/market research. It will be the responsibility of the Byway Committee and the County Representatives to determine the direction of the NSSB Committee and its leadership.

The focus of the Leadership and the overall byway committee needs to always be centered on the responsibilities as outlined by the overall state byway evaluation report (Hargrove & Associates). They are:

- Pro-active Managements
- Ongoing Stewardship
- Authentic Interpretation
- Quality Product Development
- Targeted Marketing
- Performance Measurement

The byway committee will share byway updates and information at least annually with elected officials located along the byway. Members of the byway committee will conduct at least two local presentations annually to civic groups, clubs, organizations, or entities located along the byway to share information, encourage support of and participation in byway programs.

The byway committee will recruit at least two residents annually to participate in activities and expand the task force capacity of the byway.

## **8.2 COMMITTEE TASK FORCES**

The NSSB Committee has the following task forces (subcommittees) to assist with the implementation of the NSSB.

### **Tourism Development**

The focus of the Tourism Development subcommittee is:

- Publish brochures, purchase ads, attract group tours and arrange magazine articles.
- Byway identification: signage.
- Development of interpretive guides, interpretative signage, kiosks and tours.
- Develop roadside parks, bicycle trails, visitor centers, and kiosks.

## **Resource Management**

The focus of the Resource Management subcommittee is:

- Protection and conservation of natural/scenic resources.
- Voluntary easements, planning, and zoning.
- Landscape development, design guidelines, outdoor advertising management.
- Roadway management issues, local government implementation of programs.

## **Economic Development**

The focus of the Economic Development subcommittee is:

- Identify economic development activities appropriate to the route and region such as tourism-based industry, and resource-based industries that support the corridor vision.
- Promote the positive aspects of locations along the route.
- Provide examples of good corporate development.
- Promote recommended guidelines for Corridor Development.
- Provide regular opportunities for public education and community programs.
- Enhance educational efforts in our schools and communities.
- Develop media relations.

### **8.3 COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES**

The Native Stone Scenic Byway Committee will regularly reinvent itself to respond to new needs and circumstances along the corridor. In addition to specific actions associated with the Task Force Committees, the NSSB Committee will pursue the following:

**Identification of New Members** In order that the Committee will always have fresh, talented, and committed individuals, the Committee will ALWAYS welcome new, interested parties to serve either as representation of their entity or in a subcommittee fashion.

**Project Visibility** The Committee will work to promote and advance the corridor management planning process. This will be presented to the community through the media, participation projects, ribbon cuttings, and the political arena.

## **Funding**

The Committee will participate in identifying funding for corridor-wide projects. The Wabaunsee County Economic Development & Dover Community Foundation, acting as our administrative organization, will help enable the committee to apply for and receive grant funding. The byway may also decide to receive their own 501(c) 3 status or operate under the umbrella of another not for profit organization.

## **9 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

Much work has already been done to conserve and promote this area. The NSSB Committee is aware that active participation and commitment lends itself to the success of the Byway. The NSSB Committee has established a process to coordinate future actions and further the goals of the Committee. The process, outlined below, will also provide a tracking mechanism for future efforts to promote and enhance the Byway.

### **Time Table**

The NSSB Committee will keep the communities apprised of the progress of the Scenic Byway projects, programs, and events.

### **What To Do**

Each action on the timetable will be identified and indicate the lead committee, if funding will be required and the estimated start and stop dates for each project.

## **10 CONCLUSION**

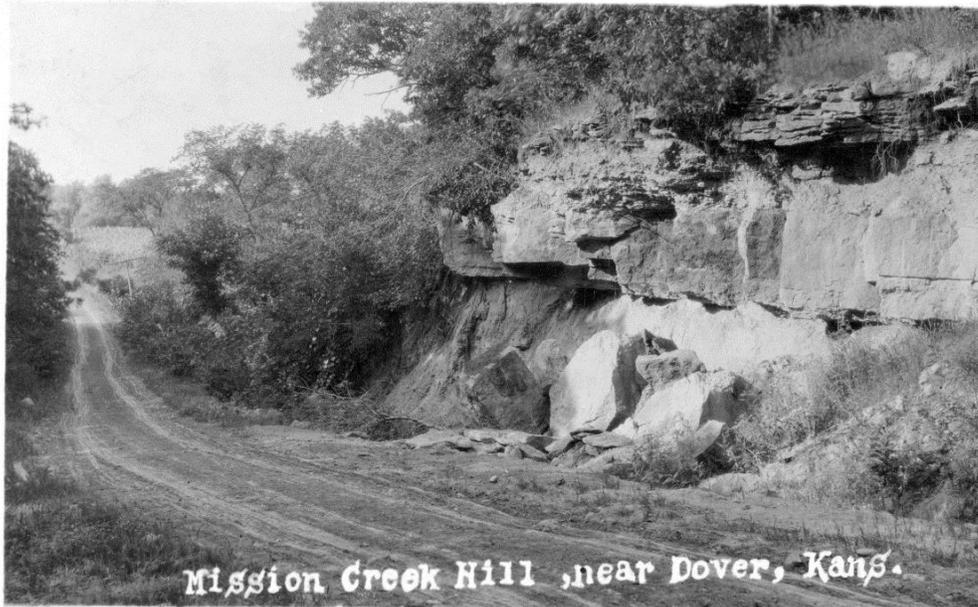
The Corridor Management Plan for the Native Stone Scenic Byway is based on the belief that individuals, organizations, and government can come together in the spirit of cooperation and concern.

This document establishes a corridor VISION complete with the goals, actions and implementation plan necessary to make the vision a reality.

This CMP is a living document, one that will be modified over time, but will demonstrate the intent of the NSSB committee to share rural Kansas, while preserving the lifestyle and beauty that now defines the rural way of life. The periodic review of programs, and projects, will keep the plan responsive to the needs of the communities and state.

The history, rich traditions, landscapes, and tourism resources of the communities along the route are a powerful economic tool for the region. Careful management through this CMP will help to ensure this region's quality of life and economic future. It will also provide a way for us to

share what we know and love about our communities and the Flint Hills region, with others.



The Byway then...circa 1922.

The Byway now



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**Native Stone Scenic Byway 80**

# APPENDIX A

## TOURIST AMENITIES

### Tourist Amenities – Dover, Kansas

Post Office – (785) 256-6130  
13538 SW 57<sup>th</sup>

Dover Federated Church – (785) 256-6362  
Dover, Ks.

Sommerset Hall Café – (785) 256-6223  
5701 SW Douglas Rd. - ATM located inside Café

Self Service Gas Station  
Parking lot of Sommerset Hall Café

1878 Historic Sage Inn – (785) 256-6050  
13553 SW K-4 Hwy - [sageinn@msn.com](mailto:sageinn@msn.com)

Fire District #4 – (785) 256-6394  
13547 SW K-4 Hwy

Dover Community Center – (785) 256-6700  
5928 SW Douglas Rd.

Schwant Tractor & Service, Inc. – (785) 256-6422  
13552 SW K-4 Hwy

Ravenwood-Mission Creek Lodge – (785) 256-6444  
2 miles north of Dover on K-4 Hwy. - ravenwoodlodge.com

Dover Small Engine – (785) 256-6365  
25591 Echo Cliff Rd.

Echo Cliff Liquor. – (785) 256-6002  
25591A Echo Cliff Rd.

Vinland de la Cairns – (785) 256-6225  
13147 SW 33<sup>rd</sup>

Dan Riley, Attorney – (785) 256-6410  
22406 Bradford Rd.

Higgins Stone – (785) 256-6583  
21589 Massasoit Rd.

Keene Road Country Estate, Event Venue & Lodging– (785) 272-3086  
31152 Keene-Eskridge Rd.

Sunflower Genetics, LLC – (785) 256-6461  
12410 Blazingstar Rd. *Cattle*

Timberline Contractors  
10247 Stallion Rd. contractors@gmail.com

Wendland Farms - (785) 256-6247 - (785)-256-6323  
25678 Echo Cliff Rd *Agricultural*

Mission Valley Ranch - (785) 256-6555  
11345 SW Hwy K-4 *Livestock, Agricultural, Agri-Tourism Experience*

## **Tourist Amenities – Eskridge, Kansas**

Alpaca's of Wildcat Hollow - (785) 499-2206  
23224 Wildcat Hollow

Wabaunsee County Fire District #5 Dial 911 for emergency  
Non-emergency (785) 449-2621  
Corner of First and Main in Eskridge

AMR Ambulance Services  
Housed next to Fire Station in Eskridge

City of Eskridge: City Marshal (785) 449-2621  
Wabaunsee County Sheriff's Office (785) 765-3323 in Alma

Cultivate Community Church - (913) 645-8686  
20896 Massasoit Rd

Countryside Feed - (785) 449-2586  
19383 Massasoit Rd.

Durkes Painting - (785) 449-6644  
20051 Skyline Dr.

Eskridge United Methodist – (785) 449-2461  
301 A. Pine

JE Fencing - (785) 256-6422  
25806 Snokomo Rd.

John's Dozer Service - (785) 449-2840  
17139 Wakarusa Rd.

Keene Graphics - (785) 256-6255  
16327 Missile Base Road

The Last Stall - (785) 449-7247  
23224 Wildcat Hollow Rd.

Wabaunsee Seed Co. - (785) 449-2565  
P.O. Box 12

Eskridge Senior Center - (785) 449-2858  
208 S. Main

C & E Motors - (785) 449-2802  
303 S. Main

Flint Hills Bank – (785) 449-2266  
103 N. Main

Eskridge Lumber Company – (785) 449-2211  
108 S. Main

Eskridge Care and Rehab Center – (785) 449-2294  
505 N. Main

BilBilt Construction – (785) 449-2823  
217 S. Main

Circle J Construction – (785) 449-7226  
18383 Bronc Rider Rd.

Rush In -104 E. – (785) 449-2535  
104 E. 3rd Ave. *Convenient Store*

Eskridge Electric Motors - (785) 449-2242  
203 S. Main

VanArsdale Funeral Chapel - (785) 449-2221  
501 E. 3rd Ave.

The Ceramic Shop – (785) 449-2239  
112 S. Main

Eskridge Market - (785) 449-2598  
111 N. Main

Connie's Hair Cottage - (785) 449-7226  
18287 Bronc Rider Rd.

Kansas Mechanical Contracting LLC- (785) 449-2608  
13885 Allen Lane

Eskridge Apartments - (785) 449-2404  
103 N. Cedar St.

Prairie Wind Apartments - (785) 449-2744  
201 N. Cedar St.

Flint Hills Insurance - (785) 449-2430  
103 N. Main

Maisie's Swimming Pool - (785) 449-2220  
106 Maple

Big Bertha's Diner - (785) 449-2818  
113 S. Main

Eskridge Car Wash and Storage Facility  
106 N. Main

Wabaunsee County General Public Transportation - (866) 409-7792

Bob's Backhoe - (785) 449-2273  
14649 Hwy K99

Buffalo Inn and Tavern - (785) 449-2207  
103 S. Main

Burgen Wood Specialties - (785) 449-7278  
17973 Hwy K4

Eskridge Post Office - (785) 449-2280  
122 S. Main

Flint Hills Rustic – Antique & Vintage - (785) 449-2236  
219 S. Main

M & S Thrift Store – (785) 215-1909  
118 S. Main

U. S. Post Office - (785) 449-2280  
122 S Main St

Waugh Law Office - (785) 449-2452  
123 S. Main

### **Tourist Amenities – Lake Wabaunsee, Eskridge, Kansas**

Wabaunsee County Fire District #5, Dial 911 for emergency,  
non-emergency (785)765-2217  
Just off of K99, West of the Lake Wabaunsee entrance

4-A Real Estate & Insurance – (785) 449-2479  
263 Ponderosa Pt.

Bill Wright Real Estate – (785) 449-2530  
372 Lake Shore Dr.

Billy Jo Sowers-Lewis – (785) 554-2141  
294 Ponderosa Dr. *Real Estate*

Brown, George “E-Bay Man” – (785) 449-2723  
367 Lake Shore Dr. – (785) 640-7980

Clark Carpet & Tile - (785) 449-2635  
102 Prairie View Rd.

E & E Construction – (785) 235-2824  
163 Cedar Circle

Fritzson Auto Sales – (785) 449-2770  
236 Flint Hills Dr.

Gem Resort, The – (785) 449-2353  
284 W. Flint Hills Drive *Bed & Breakfast*

Harold Warner Construction – (785) 449-2469  
383 Lake Shore Dr.

In The Sand Box (785) 539-6365  
18 Rocky *Auto Sales*

Lake Bait Shop (785) 449-2507  
Boat Launch Location

Lake View Barn – (785) 449-7269  
76 Lake View Circle *Vacation Rental*

Lake Wabaunsee Improvement District – (785) 449-7271  
470 W. Flint Hills Dr.

Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Mission  
Lake Wabaunsee

Regency Travel – (785) 449-2469  
383 Lake Shore Dr.

Repo Man Lawn Service – (785)449-2791  
401 Lake Shore Dr.

Ridgway Electric – (785) 449-7201  
278 Ponderosa Dr.

Stauffer Lawn Service – (785) 449-2530  
372 Lake Shore Dr.

The Lodge at Lake Wabaunsee – (785) 449-2100  
1 W Flint Hills Dr.

Lakeside Storage – (785) 456-4358  
18749 Highway 99

Wabaunsee Pines Golf Course – (785) 449-2790  
271 Flint Hills Drive

### **Tourist Amenities – Alma**

Alma City Police- (785) 765-3323  
326 Missouri Avenue

Wabaunsee County Fire (785) 449-2800  
7<sup>th</sup> and Missouri

Wabaunsee County Sheriff (785) 765-3323  
Wabaunsee County Courthouse  
215 Kansas Avenue, Alma

2-Bar-D Ranch- (785) 765-2357  
33691 Highway K-99 *Livestock*

24/7 Store – (785) 256-4211  
32981 Windy Hill Rd. *Convenience Store*

Adventure Time Childcare – (785) 844-0265 or (785) 458-2146  
803 Kansas Ave

Alma Bakery & Sweet Shoppe – (785) 765-2235  
118 West Third *Bakery, Catering, Dining*

Alma Baptist Church- (785) 765-3537  
246 E 9th St

Alma Coop Elevator – (785) 765-3832  
217 Missouri Ave

Alma Coop Oil Association – (785) 765-3911  
109 Missouri Ave

Alma Creamery, LLC – (785)765-3522  
509 E 3rd St. *Food Production & Processing  
Shopping*

Alma Foods, LLC/Hormel – (785) 765-3396  
110 E 1st St

Alma Manor (785)-765-3318  
234 Manor Circle

Alma Senior Homes, Inc – (785)-765-3669  
310 E. 8th St *Residential*

Alma Storage Complex – (785)-765-3448  
20583 Southtown Rd

Alma United Methodist Church - (785) 765-2238  
627 Missouri Ave,

Alma Veterinary Hospital – (785)-765-2562  
122 W 3rd St

Antique Emporium of Alma – (785)-765-3332  
322 Missouri Ave. *Antiques & Gifts Shopping*

Avon-Elaine Deiter - (785) 765-2316  
PO Box 153 *Personal Care/Beauty*

Baldock & Turner, LLP - (785) 765-3392  
114 W 3rd St. *Attorney*

Bank of the Flint Hills - (785) 765-2220  
408 Missouri Ave.

Barrett Lawn and Landscape, LLC - (785) 608-9284  
603 Missouri

Bluestem Auto & Body  
107 Missouri Ave  
(785) 765-3792 (office) or (785) 765-3675 (home) or (785) 617-0684 (cell)  
*AAA Provider, Auto Repair, Auto Sales, Mechanical*

Bluestem Computer & Technology Solutions – (620) 794-6387

Campanella-Gentry Funeral Home - (785) 765-3913  
224 Missouri Ave.

Daniel Graphics – (785) 370-5396  
323 Missouri Ave.

DJ's Bar & Grill - (785) 765-2660  
510 E 4th St

Dollar General - (785) 765-2490  
337 E. 11th St

Farm Bureau Financial Services - (785) 765-3325  
311 Missouri Ave. *Agricultural, Insurance*

Feyh Farm Seed Company -(866) 765-3415(toll free)  
26401 Fairfield Road

Flint Hills Art & Sign (785) 765-2666  
306 Missouri Ave. *Art Graphic Design*

Flint Hills Gelbvieh-Red Angus - (785) 765-4814  
30327 Old K-10 Hwy *Livestock*

Flint Hills Pasture Restoration - (785) 644-2232  
*Agricultural*

Flint Hills Real Estate and Auction  
317 Missouri Ave

Flint Hills Stone - (785) 765-3874  
24176 Prairie View Rd *Quarry*

Flint Hills Trader - (785) 765-2666  
306 Missouri Ave *Antiques & Gifts Shopping*

Flying S Ranch - (785) 765-2315  
35590 Old K-10 Rd *Agricultural Livestock*

Frank's Bookkeeping & Tax Service - (785) 765-3317  
317 Missouri Ave *Accounting*

Frank's Plumbing & Heating, Inc - (785) 765-3372  
305 Missouri Ave

Gambino's Pizza - (785) 765-3308  
308 Missouri Ave

Garrison Construction - (785) 765-2369  
28385 Hinerville Rd

Gehrt Construction - (785) 765-2244  
28871 Pavilion Rd

Gnadt Brothers -(785) 765-2245  
28835 Kuenzli Creek Rd *Livestock*

Grandma Hoerner's - (785) 765-2300  
31862 Thompson Rd *Food Production & Processing Shopping*

Hafenstine Construction - (785) 765-3580  
29509 Highway K-99

Hair Fx - (785) 556-0538  
319 Missouri Street *Personal Care/Beauty*

Hairport Barber Stylist Shop - (785) 765-3782  
222 Missouri Ave

Hamblet Home Antiques – (785) 321-9500  
306 Missouri Street

Hendricks Hardware - (785) 765-3721  
300 Missouri Ave *Backhoe Services, Hardware*

Irish Express, Inc -(785) 765-2500  
32750 Wabaunsee Road *Trucking*

Irma Jean's Cleaning Service -  
27715 Paw Paw Creek Road (785) 844-3107

JE Fencing - (785) 256-6422  
25806 Snokomo Rd

McCoy's Rock Quarry-(785) 556-2496 (Duane) or (785) 844-1820 (Dalton)  
34394 Wabaunsee Rd

McKnight Park - (785) 765-3552  
28565 K99 Hwy *Camping & RV Parking*

Mill Creek Outfitters - (785) 499-6631  
35040 Old K-10 Hwy *Hunting Guide & Outfitter, Agri Tourism Experience*

Mill Creek Ranch - (785) 449-2841  
20635 Hessdale Rd

Mill Creek Vet Services - (785) 765-2319 or cell (785) 556-0033  
27506C Highway K-99

Murray Auction Services - (785) 765-3655  
RR 2 *Auction Service*

Murray Insurance Agency - (877) 765-2299  
*Insurance*

Native Stone Studio - (785) 826-3409  
178 Twain Arbor *Photography*

New Life Bible Church - (785) 765-3537

Peace United Church of Christ - (785) 765-3818  
401 Grand Ave,

Plumlee Buffalo Ranch - (785) 776-1271 or (785) 539-2255  
29300 SW 99 Frontage Road *Agri Tourism Experience*  
*Agricultural, Livestock*

Rockin T Renovations - (785) 556-2563  
26775 Fairfield Rd *Construction*

St John Lutheran Church - (785) 765-3632  
218 W 2nd St,

Stop-2-Shop - (785) 765-3500  
100 Missouri Ave *Convenience Store*

Stuewe Construction - (785) 765-3500  
31232 Hwy K-99

The Farmacy Cafe (785) 765-2366-  
327 Missouri Ave *Catering, Dining*

Thowe & Schmanke Construction - (785) 765-3492 - (785) 765-2203  
27032 Fairfield Rd

Tupperware - Sue Fox - (785)817-2936 - (785) 765-2618  
31038 Wapiti Road

Uptown Beauty Shop - (785) 765-3412  
318 Missouri Ave

Wabaunsee County Fair Grounds - (785) 449-2519  
400 E 9th Street

Wabaunsee County General Public Transportation  
(785) 765-2422

Wabaunsee County Signal Enterprise - (785) 765-3327  
323 Missouri Ave *Newspaper*

Wabaunsee County Title - (785) 765-3422  
315 Missouri Ave *Abstract Company*

Wabaunsee Land Title - (785) 765-3337  
319 Missouri *Abstract Company*

Wabaunsee Seed Co. - (785) 449-2565  
*Ag Services & Supplies (chemical, feed, seed, farm supplies)*

Wertzberger Ranch Equipment - (785) 765-3588  
28998 Burr Oak Rd  
*Ag Services & Supplies (chemical, feed, seed, farm supplies)*  
*Agricultural, Farm & Ranch Equipment*

Whitaker Plumbing, Electrical, Heating & Cooling LLC - (785) 765-2434  
302 Missouri Ave

Wright Liquor Store - (785) 765-3713  
212 Missouri Ave

### **Tourist Amenities – I-70 and K-99 North**

Hinerville School  
33019 K-99 *Historic One Room School House*

### **Tourist Amenities – Wabaunsee, Kansas**

Beecher Bible & Rife Church – (785) 617-1300  
Elm St.

Downey Ranch, Inc. – (785) 456-8160  
37929 Wabaunsee Rd. *Cattle Ranch*

Homestead Custom Cabinets – (785) 765-9977  
28470 Homestead Rd.

Mount Mitchell Heritage Prairie  
Mitchell Prairie Ln, *Tallgrass Prairie*

Wabaunsee Cemetery  
K18 Highway *Historic Cemetery*

### **Tourist Amenities – Zeandale, Kansas**

Riley County Fire Department #1  
Tabor Valley Road

Deep Roots Landscape Management – (785) 537-0898  
3061 Zeandale Rd

Lazy T Ranch – Agritourism & Lodging (785) 537-0898  
2103 Zeandale Rd

River Creek Farms – Agritourism & Lodging (785) 456-9650  
7160 Zeandale Rd.

American Agri-Women – (586) 530-1771  
2103 Zeandale Rd.

Abernathy Foreign & Domestic - (785) 539-3740  
1461 Zeandale Rd *Brake Shop*

Complete Outdoors Inc - (785) 776-1930  
620 Zeandale Rd *Landscaper*

Unitarian-Universalist - (785) 537-2349  
481 Zeandale Rd *Church*

Kaw Valley Green Houses - (785) 776-8585  
360 Zeandale Rd,

Kansas Building Science Institute - (785) 537-2425  
200 Zeandale Rd *Vocational School*

Zeandale Community Center  
Tabor Valley Rd

Zeandale Community Church - (785) 539-1458 ·  
Hwy 18 and Tabor Valley Road

### **Tourist Amenities – Manhattan, Kansas**

Riley County Ambulance Service – (785) 539-3535  
2011 Claflin Road, Manhattan

Manhattan Fire Department (785) 587-4504  
2000 Denison Ave., Manhattan

Riley County Police Department (785) 537-2112  
1001 S. Seth Child Rd., Manhattan

Fairmont Park - (785) 539-2981  
125 Messenger Rd,

Dara's Fast Lane - (785) 776-4119  
1132 Pillsbury Drive *Convenience Store*

Grand Ol' Trunk Thrift Shop and Bookstore - (785) 537-2273  
1304 Pillsbury Drive

Osark On Site Automotive Repair Of Kansas  
1322 Pillsbury Drive

New 2U - (785) 539-4092  
1401 Pillsbury Drive *Used Furniture Store*

Car's Mechanical  
1442 Pillsbury Drive

Supreme Automotive - (785) 539-1201  
1615 Pillsbury Drive *Auto Repair Shop*

Kistner's Flowers - (785) 776-7989  
1901 Pillsbury Drive

Mid-America Piano, LLC - (785) 537-3774  
241 Johnson Rd,

Alan Clark Body Shop, Inc. - (785) 776-5333  
2160 Pillsbury Drive

Austin Trailers - (785) 539-3925  
2560 Pillsbury Drive

Christian Disciples Fellowship - (785) 587-8507  
12 Perry Drive

Little Apple Quality Home Sales - (785) 539-7600  
8001 Pillsbury Drive  
Bayer Construction Co - (785) 776-8839  
120 Deep Creek Rd

Wildwood Outdoor Adventure Park - (785) 477-9543  
375 Johnson Rd,

Kaw Valley Farms - (785) 537-9718  
90 Tuttle Creek View

Konza Prairie Biological Station - (785) 587-0441  
100 Konza Prairie Ln *Tallgrass preserve & hiking trails*

K-177 Overlook Park - (785) 565-6200  
3700 Pillsbury Drive *Konza Prairie*

There are multiple lodging and dining options in Manhattan:

[www.manhattancvb.org/VistorsGuide](http://www.manhattancvb.org/VistorsGuide)

[manhattan.org](http://manhattan.org)

[www.manhattaned.org](http://www.manhattaned.org)

Emergency Services for Geary County:

Geary County Sheriff Department (785) 238-2261

826 N. Franklin, Junction City

Junction City Police Department (785) 762-5912

210 E. 9<sup>th</sup>, Junction City

Junction City Fire Department (785) 238-6822

Junction City Ambulance

700 N. Jefferson, Junction City

# **Appendix B**

## **City and County Resolutions And Support Letters**

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-18

A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE EXTENSION OF THE  
NATIVE STONE SCENIC BYWAY

**WHEREAS**, the Congress of the United States enacted the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA); and

**WHEREAS**, Section 1047 of that act directed the U.S. Secretary of Transportation to establish a National Scenic Byways Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas Byways Committee, consisting of representatives from the Kansas Departments of Transportation, Wildlife, Parks and Tourism and the State Historical Society, have developed guidelines and policies for designation of Kansas Byways; and

**WHEREAS**, the Native Stone Scenic Byway Committee, composed of community representatives have submitted a request for extension of the existing Native Stone Scenic Byway and to develop a Corridor Management Plan that will include the current route and the extension route, including specific strategies and techniques to preserve, enhance, and promote the scenic byway; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas Byways Committee has evaluated this route extension, and recommends the Native Stone Scenic Byway include the existing Byway and the road described as the Extension of Byway as follows, to wit:

Existing Byway: Beginning at the intersection of Glick Road and Kansas State Highway 4, thence southwesterly through the community of Dover, Kansas, thence due west to the Wabaunsee County Line, all being in Shawnee County, Kansas and continuing west through the community of Keene, thence south, southwesterly through the town of Eskridge, thence west, past Lake Wabaunsee, to the junction of Kansas Highway 99, all being Kansas Highway 4, and thence north along Kansas Highway 99 through the City of Alma, thence north to Interstate 70.

Extension of Byway: Continue north under Interstate 70, exit 328 on Kansas Highway 99 to the junction of Kansas Highways 18 and 99, thence west on Kansas Highway 18 through the community of Wabaunsee, and west into Riley County through the community of Zeandale to the junction of Kansas Highways 18 and 177, thence south on Kansas Highway 177 into Geary County and ending at the interchange of Interstate 70 and Kansas Highway 177.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of Alma, Kansas:

**Section 1. Designation.** The proposed extension of this route within the boundaries of the City of Alma, shall hereby be designated as the NATIVE STONE SCENIC BYWAY.

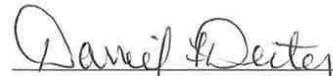
**Section 2. Off-Premise Signs.** The City of Alma shall prohibit the erection of any off-premise sign, display, or device along any portion of the scenic byway which is on the Interstate System, National Highway System, or Federal-aid primary system except signs in conformance with K.S.A. 68-2233(a)(b)(c)

**Section 3. Effective Date.** This resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the official County newspaper.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 6th DAY OF June, 2017 BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALMA, KANSAS.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
, Council Member

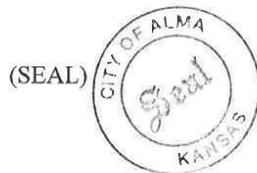
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Council Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
, Council Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
, Council Member

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
, City Clerk



## **RESOLUTION 2016-07**

### **Scenic Byway Extension Resolution**

#### **A Resolution Designating the Extension of the Native Stone Scenic Byway**

**WHEREAS**, the Congress of the United States enacted the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA); and

**WEREAS**, Section 1047 of that act directed the U.S. Secretary of Transportation to establish a National Scenic Byways Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas Byways Committee, consisting of representatives from the Kansas Departments of Transportation, Wildlife, Parks and Tourism and the State Historical Society, have developed guidelines and policies for designation of Kansas Byways; and

**WHEREAS**, the Native Stone Scenic Byway Committee, composed of community representatives have submitted a request for extension of the existing Native Stone Scenic Byway, develop a Corridor Management Plan that will include the current route and the extension route, including specific strategies and techniques to preserve, enhance, and promote the scenic byway; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas Byways Committee has evaluated this route extension, and recommends the Native Stone Scenic Byway include the road described as follows (extension portion will be in red), to wit:

Beginning as the intersection of Glick Road and Kansas State Highway 4, then southwesterly through the community of Dover, Kansas and due west to the Wabaunsee County Line, all being in Shawnee County, Kansas and continuing west through the community of Keene, thence south, southwesterly through the town of Eskridge, thence west, past Lake Wabaunsee, to the junction of Kansas Highway 99, all being Kansas Highway 4, and turning north along Kansas Highway 99 through the City of Alma, north to Interstate 70. The extension of the byway will continue north under Interstate 70, exit 328 on Kansas Highway 99 to the junction of Kansas Highways 18 and 99. The byway will turn west on Kansas Highway 18 through the community of Wabaunsee, and west into Riley County through the community of Zeandale to the junction of Kansas Highways 18 and 177, then south on Kansas Highway 177 into Geary County and ending at the interchange of Interstate 70 and Kansas Highway 177.

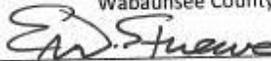
**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it hereby resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Wabaunsee, Kansas, that existing and new extension of this route be hereby designated: THE NATIVE STONE SCENIC BYWAY.

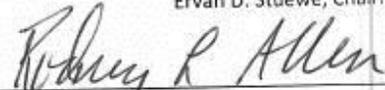
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County shall prohibit the erection of any sign, display, or device along any portion of the scenic byway which is on the Interstate System, National Highway System, or Federal-aid primary system except signs in conformance with K.S.A. 68-2233(a)(b)(c).

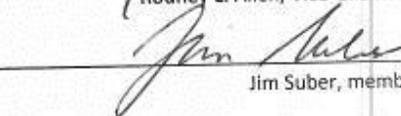
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Resolution 2016-07 shall be forwarded to the Kansas Byways Committee as a part of the Corridor Management Plan to preserve this scenic road.

RESOLVED and ADOPTED this 11 day of April, 2016

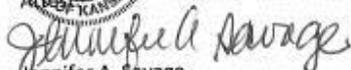
Wabaunsee County Commissioners

  
Ervan D. Stuewe, Chairman

  
Rodney L. Allen, Vice-Chairman

  
Jim Suber, member



  
Jennifer A. Savage  
Wabaunsee County Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 121715-45

A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE EXTENSION OF THE  
NATIVE STONE SCENIC BYWAY

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States enacted the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA); and

WHEREAS, Section 1047 of that act directed the U.S. Secretary of Transportation to establish a National Scenic Byways Program; and

WHEREAS, the Kansas Byways Committee, consisting of representatives from the Kansas Departments of Transportation, Wildlife, Parks and Tourism and the State Historical Society, have developed guidelines and policies for designation of Kansas Byways; and

WHEREAS, the Native Stone Scenic Byway Committee, composed of community representatives have submitted a request for extension of the existing Native Stone Scenic Byway and to develop a Corridor Management Plan that will include the current route and the extension route, including specific strategies and techniques to preserve, enhance, and promote the scenic byway; and

WHEREAS, the Kansas Byways Committee has evaluated this route extension, and recommends the Native Stone Scenic Byway include the existing Byway and the road described as the Extension of Byway as follows, to wit:

Existing Byway: Beginning at the intersection of Glick Road and Kansas State Highway 4, thence southwesterly through the community of Dover, Kansas, thence due west to the Wabaunsee County Line, all being in Shawnee County, Kansas and continuing west through the community of Keene, thence south, southwesterly through the town of Eskridge, thence west, past Lake Wabaunsee, to the junction of Kansas Highway 99, all being Kansas Highway 4, and thence north along Kansas Highway 99 through the City of Alma, thence north to Interstate 70.

Extension of Byway: Continue north under Interstate 70, exit 328 on Kansas Highway 99 to the junction of Kansas Highways 18 and 99, thence west on Kansas Highway 18 through the community of Wabaunsee, and west into Riley County through the community of Zeandale to the junction of Kansas Highways 18 and 177, thence south on Kansas Highway 177 into Geary County and ending at the interchange of Interstate 70 and Kansas Highway 177.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Riley County, Kansas:

Section 1. Designation. The proposed extension of this route within the boundaries of

Riley County shall hereby be designated as the NATIVE STONE SCENIC BYWAY.

**Section 2. Off-Premise Signs.** Riley County shall prohibit the erection of any off-premise sign, display, or device along any portion of the scenic byway which is on the Interstate System, National Highway System, or Federal-aid primary system except signs in conformance with K.S.A. 68-2233(a)(b)(c).

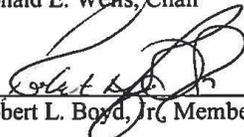
**Section 3. Conditions.** Riley County's approval is subject to the following conditions:

1. Riley County's approval of this designation is effective for a period of two years from the date of the publication of this resolution. Prior to the expiration of this two year period, the Board of Commissioners of Riley County shall conduct a hearing to determine whether or not to continue the designation; and
2. The Native Stone Scenic Byway Committee shall consider substituting McDowell Creek Road for K-177 as part of the byway and shall present evidence at the hearing regarding their efforts in that regard and the advantages and disadvantages of such a substitution; and
3. Representatives from Riley County shall be added to the Native Stone Scenic Byway Committee prior to beginning work on the revised Corridor Management Plan.

**Section 4. Effective Date.** This resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the official County newspaper.

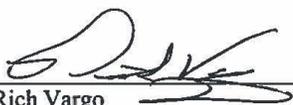
**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 17th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2015, BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF RILEY COUNTY, KANSAS.**

  
Ronald E. Wells, Chair

  
Robert L. Boyd, Jr, Member

  
Ben Wilson, Member

ATTEST:

  
Rich Vargo  
Riley County Clerk



**RESOLUTION NO. 2016- 31**

**A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE EXTENSION OF THE NATIVE STONE SCENIC BYWAY**

**SPONSORED BY COMMISSIONER BUHLER**

**WHEREAS**, the Congress of the United States enacted the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA); and

**WHEREAS**, Section 1047 of that act directed the U.S. Secretary of Transportation to establish a National Scenic Byways Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas Byways Committee, consisting of representatives from the Kansas Departments of Transportation, Wildlife, Parks and Tourism and the State Historical Society, have developed guidelines and policies for designation of Kansas Byways; and

**WHEREAS**, the Native Stone Scenic Byway Committee, composed of community representatives have submitted a request for extension of the existing Native Stone Scenic Byway, develop a Corridor Management Plan that will include the current route and the extension route, including specific strategies and techniques to preserve, enhance, and promote the scenic byway; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas Byways Committee has evaluated this route extension, and recommends the Native Stone Scenic Byway include the road described as follows (extension portion will be in red), to wit:

Beginning as the intersection of Glick Road and Kansas State Highway 4, then southwesterly through the community of Dover, Kansas and due west to the Wabaunsee County Line, all being in Shawnee County, Kansas and continuing west through the community of Keene, thence south, southwesterly through the town of Eskridge, thence west, past Lake Wabaunsee, to the junction of Kansas Highway 99, all being Kansas Highway 4, and turning north along Kansas Highway 99 through the City of Alma, north to Interstate 70. The extension of the byway will continue north under Interstate 70, exit 328 on Kansas Highway 99 to the junction of Kansas Highways 18 and 99. The byway will turn west on Kansas Highway 18 through the community of Wabaunsee, and west into Riley County through the community of Zeandale to the junction of Kansas Highways 18 and 177, then south on Kansas Highway 177 into Geary County and ending at the interchange of Interstate 70 and Kansas Highway 177.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it hereby resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Shawnee, Kansas, that existing and new extension of this route be hereby designated: THE NATIVE STONE SCENIC BYWAY.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County shall prohibit the erection of any sign, display, or device along any portion of the scenic byway which is on the Interstate System, National Highway System, or Federal-aid primary system except signs in conformance with K.S.A. 68-2233(a)(b)(c).

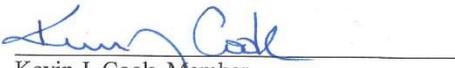
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall be forwarded to the Kansas Byways Committee as a part of the Corridor Management Plan to preserve this scenic road.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
SHAWNEE COUNTY, KANSAS**



  
Michele A. Buhler, Chair

  
Robert E. Archer, Vice Chair

  
Kevin J. Cook, Member

ATTEST:

  
Cynthia A. Beck, County Clerk

Dated this 18th day of April, 2016

Approved as to Legality  
and Form: Date 4-13-16  
  
CO. COUNSELOR

RESOLUTION NO. 05-09-16

**A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE EXTENSION OF THE  
NATIVE STONE SCENIC BYWAY**

**WHEREAS**, the Congress of the United States enacted the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA); and

**WHEREAS**, Section 1047 of that act directed the U.S. Secretary of Transportation to establish a National Scenic Byways Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas Byways Committee, consisting of representatives from the Kansas Departments of Transportation, Wildlife, Parks and Tourism and the State Historical Society, have developed guidelines and policies for designation of Kansas Byways; and

**WHEREAS**, the Native Stone Scenic Byway Committee, composed of community representatives have submitted a request for extension of the existing Native Stone Scenic Byway and to develop a Corridor Management Plan that will include the current route and the extension route, including specific strategies and techniques to preserve, enhance, and promote the scenic byway; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas Byways Committee has evaluated this route extension, and recommends the Native Stone Scenic Byway include the existing Byway and the road described as the Extension of Byway as follows, to wit:

Existing Byway: Beginning at the intersection of Glick Road and Kansas State Highway 4, thence southwesterly through the community of Dover, Kansas, thence due west to the Wabaunsee County Line, all being in Shawnee County, Kansas and continuing west through the community of Keene, thence south, southwesterly through the town of Eskridge, thence west, past Lake Wabaunsee, to the junction of Kansas Highway 99, all being Kansas Highway 4, and thence north along Kansas Highway 99 through the City of Alma, thence north to Interstate 70.

Extension of Byway: Continue north under Interstate 70, exit 328 on Kansas Highway 99 to the junction of Kansas Highways 18 and 99, thence west on Kansas Highway 18 through the community of Wabaunsee, and west into Riley County through the community of Zeandale to the junction of Kansas Highways 18 and 177, thence south on Kansas Highway 177 into Geary County and ending at the interchange of Interstate 70 and Kansas Highway 177.

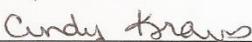
**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of Eskridge, Kansas:

**Section 1. Designation.** The proposed extension of this route within the boundaries of the City of Eskridge shall hereby be designated as the NATIVE STONE SCENIC BYWAY.

**Section 2. Off-Premise Signs.** The City of Eskridge shall prohibit the erection of any off-premise sign, display, or device along any portion of the scenic byway which is on the Interstate System, National Highway System, or Federal-aid primary system except signs in conformance with K.S.A. 68-2233(a)(b)(c).

**Section 3. Effective Date.** This resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the official County newspaper.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS \_\_th DAY OF MAY, 2016, BY THE THE CITY COUNCIL OF ESKRIDGE, KANSAS.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Council Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
, Council Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
, Council Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Resolution No. 3-21-2016

**A Resolution Designating the Extension of the Native Stone Scenic Byway**

**WHEREAS**, the Congress of the United States enacted the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA); and

**WHEREAS**, Section 1047 of that act directed the U.S. Secretary of Transportation to establish a National Scenic Byways Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas Byways Committee, consisting of representatives from the Kansas Departments of Transportation, Wildlife, Parks and Tourism and the State Historical Society, have developed guidelines and policies for designation of Kansas Byways; and

**WHEREAS**, the Native Stone Scenic Byway Committee, composed of community representatives have submitted a request for extension of the existing Native Stone Scenic Byway, develop a Corridor Management Plan that will include the current route and the extension route, including specific strategies and techniques to preserve, enhance, and promote the scenic byway; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Kansas Byways Committee has evaluated this route extension, and recommends the Native Stone Scenic Byway include the existing Byway and the road described as the Extension of Byway as follows, to wit:

Existing Byway: Beginning as the intersection of Glick Road and Kansas State Highway 4, then southwesterly through the community of Dover, Kansas and due west to the Wabaunsee County Line, all being in Shawnee County, Kansas and continuing west through the community of Keene, thence south, southwesterly through the town of Eskridge, thence west, past Lake Wabaunsee, to the junction of Kansas Highway 99, all being Kansas Highway 4, and turning north along Kansas Highway 99 through the City of Alma, north to Interstate 70.

Extension of Byway: The extension of the byway will continue north under Interstate 70, exit 328 on Kansas Highway 99 to the junction of Kansas Highways 18 and 99. The byway will turn west on Kansas Highway 18 through the community of Wabaunsee, and west into Riley County through the community of Zeandale to the junction of Kansas Highways 18 and 177, then south on Kansas Highway 177 into Geary County and ending at the interchange of Interstate 70 and Kansas Highway 177.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it hereby resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Geary, Kansas, that existing and new extension of this route be hereby designated: THE NATIVE STONE SCENIC BYWAY.

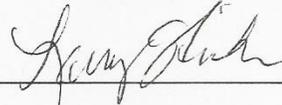
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County shall prohibit the erection of any sign, display, or device along any portion of the scenic byway which is on the Interstate System, National Highway System, or Federal-aid primary system except signs in conformance with K.S.A. 68-2233(a)(b)(c).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Resolution XXXX-XX shall be forwarded to the Kansas Byways Committee as a part of the Corridor Management Plan to preserve this scenic road.

**RESOLVED and ADOPTED** this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2016, by THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF GEARY COUNTY, KANSAS.



R. Ben Bennett, ~~Chair~~



Larry Hicks, Member



Florence Whitebread, ~~Member~~ Chair



ATTEST:..



Rebecca Bossemeyer

Geary County Clerk



March 28, 2016

Native Stone Scenic Byway  
C/o Sally Stratton  
P. O. Box 67  
Alma, KS 66401

Dear Native Stone Scenic Byway Committee:

Manhattan is pleased to be a part of the extended Native Stone Scenic Byway. The scenery along K-177 with the Konza Prairie to the West is breathtaking. Manhattan has many offerings to compliment the Native Stone Scenic Byway with offerings of the Flint Hills Discovery Center, beautiful limestone structures on Kansas State University campus, the Riley County Courthouse and multiple churches, businesses, and homes. Our many lodging offerings encourage the traveler to slow down to take in the natural beauty that surrounds them.

We appreciate being a part of the extension of the Native Stone Scenic Byway.

We value your assistance on this project.

Yours in Tourism,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen M. Hibbard".

Karen Hibbard, Vice-President  
Manhattan Convention and Visitors Bureau



Office of the Secretary  
1020 S Kansas Ave., Suite 200  
Topeka, KS 66612-1327

Phone: (785) 296-2281  
Fax: 785-296-6953  
www.kdwp.state.ks.us

Robin Jennison, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

November 19, 2015

Commissioner Robert Boyd  
Riley County Clerk  
110 Courthouse Plaza  
Suite #B118  
Manhattan, Kansas 66502

Dear Commissioner Boyd,

I would like to encourage you to vote in favor of the extension of the Native Stone Scenic Byway. The extension, as presented to the commission earlier this year, is north from I-70 & K-99 in Wabaunsee County to K-18, west on K-18 through Wabaunsee, into Riley County, through Zeandale to K-177 and north on K-177 through Geary County to I-70. We feel the extension would be an asset to Riley County and the City of Manhattan, drawing byway visitors from I-70.

The Kansas Byways program has been an active and successful program since the early 1990's. The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT), the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism (KDWPT), and the local grassroots byway committees work together to enhance and promote Kansas through the byways across the state.

Combined, KDOT and KDWPT have invested over \$200,000 to enhance and promote the Kansas Byways in 2015. In 2016, over \$1 million has been committed to implement an interpretive program for our byway system, plus over \$300,000 in promotions, specific to the byways. The Kansas Byways program has received over \$6 million in Federal Highway grants to build the Byway program, construct kiosks, produce promotional material, interpret and enhance the byway communities since its inception. We will continue to pursue funding to develop these scenic and historic routes in Kansas. As such, Riley County, the City of Manhattan and the State of Kansas could benefit significantly by your decision to become a part of the Native Stone Scenic Byway expansion.

The Native Stone Scenic Byway committee, is an active grassroots group, working to promote their communities and the byway. One of their many projects includes hosting stone fence building workshops twice a year, demonstrating the pride they take in restoring and preserving the stone fences of the Kansas Flint Hills.

As leaders in your community, I encourage you to support the extension of the Native Stone Scenic Byway to include K-18 and K-177 in Riley County to the Geary County line.

Sincerely,

Robin Jennison  
Secretary, Kansas Department Wildlife, Parks and Tourism



Office of the Secretary  
1020 S Kansas Ave., Suite 200  
Topeka, KS 66612-1327

Phone: (785) 296-2281  
Fax: 785-296-6953  
www.kdwp.state.ks.us

Robin Jennison, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

November 19, 2015

Commissioner Ron Wells, Chair  
Riley County Clerk  
110 Courthouse Plaza  
Suite #B118  
Manhattan, Kansas 66502

Dear Commissioner Wells,

I would like to encourage you to vote in favor of the extension of the Native Stone Scenic Byway. The extension, as presented to the commission earlier this year, is north from I-70 & K-99 in Wabaunsee County to K-18, west on K-18 through Wabaunsee, into Riley County, through Zeandale to K-177 and north on K-177 through Geary County to I-70. We feel the extension would be an asset to Riley County and the City of Manhattan, drawing byway visitors from I-70.

The Kansas Byways program has been an active and successful program since the early 1990's. The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT), the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism (KDWPT), and the local grassroots byway committees work together to enhance and promote Kansas through the byways across the state.

Combined, KDOT and KDWPT have invested over \$200,000 to enhance and promote the Kansas Byways in 2015. In 2016, over \$1 million has been committed to implement an interpretive program for our byway system, plus over \$300,000 in promotions, specific to the byways. The Kansas Byways program has received over \$6 million in Federal Highway grants to build the Byway program, construct kiosks, produce promotional material, interpret and enhance the byway communities since its inception. We will continue to pursue funding to develop these scenic and historic routes in Kansas. As such, Riley County, the City of Manhattan and the State of Kansas could benefit significantly by your decision to become a part of the Native Stone Scenic Byway expansion.

The Native Stone Scenic Byway committee, is an active grassroots group, working to promote their communities and the byway. One of their many projects includes hosting stone fence building workshops twice a year, demonstrating the pride they take in restoring and preserving the stone fences of the Kansas Flint Hills.

As leaders in your community, I encourage you to support the extension of the Native Stone Scenic Byway to include K-18 and K-177 in Riley County to the Geary County line.

Sincerely,

Robin Jennison  
Secretary, Kansas Department Wildlife, Parks and Tourism

**Native Stone Scenic Byway 113**



Office of the Secretary  
1020 S Kansas Ave., Suite 200  
Topeka, KS 66612-1327

Phone: (785) 296-2281  
Fax: 785-296-6953  
www.kdwp.state.ks.us

Robin Jennison, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

November 19, 2015

Commissioner Ben Wilson, Vice Chair  
Riley County Clerk  
110 Courthouse Plaza  
Suite #B118  
Manhattan, Kansas 66502

Dear Commissioner Wilson,

I would like to encourage you to vote in favor of the extension of the Native Stone Scenic Byway. The extension, as presented to the commission earlier this year, is north from I-70 & K-99 in Wabaunsee County to K-18, west on K-18 through Wabaunsee, into Riley County, through Zeandale to K-177 and north on K-177 through Geary County to I-70. We feel the extension would be an asset to Riley County and the City of Manhattan, drawing byway visitors from I-70.

The Kansas Byways program has been an active and successful program since the early 1990's. The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT), the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism (KDWPT), and the local grassroots byway committees work together to enhance and promote Kansas through the byways across the state.

Combined, KDOT and KDWPT have invested over \$200,000 to enhance and promote the Kansas Byways in 2015. In 2016, over \$1 million has been committed to implement an interpretive program for our byway system, plus over \$300,000 in promotions, specific to the byways. The Kansas Byways program has received over \$6 million in Federal Highway grants to build the Byway program, construct kiosks, produce promotional material, interpret and enhance the byway communities since its inception. We will continue to pursue funding to develop these scenic and historic routes in Kansas. As such, Riley County, the City of Manhattan and the State of Kansas could benefit significantly by your decision to become a part of the Native Stone Scenic Byway expansion.

The Native Stone Scenic Byway committee, is an active grassroots group, working to promote their communities and the byway. One of their many projects includes hosting stone fence building workshops twice a year, demonstrating the pride they take in restoring and preserving the stone fences of the Kansas Flint Hills.

As leaders in your community, I encourage you to support the extension of the Native Stone Scenic Byway to include K-18 and K-177 in Riley County to the Geary County line.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robin Jennison".

Robin Jennison  
Secretary, Kansas Department Wildlife, Parks and Tourism

Jakob Drentlaw  
October 19, 2015

Dear Native Stone Scenic Byway,

I would like to say that the time that I have been a part of this workshop has helped me grow and become confident in my skills and myself. I have been with the workshop since 2007 when I was 13 years old. I have learned an immense amount about dry stone construction because of this workshop, and has encouraged me to become certified at some point as a dry stone mason. I feel that this group have brought a sense of pride to the people who live along the Native Stone Scenic byway and Wabaunsee County. The restoration of stone fence brings many different people together to recreate or restore a piece of history that the Flint hills is known for. The restoration of the dry stone fences have become a very important skill and part of my life, because this is something that not many people know how to do any more. All of the board members have done an immense amount of work getting this byway off the ground and making it become a substantial entity. Again if it was not for the Native Stone Scenic byway then I would not have gained the experiences and knowledge in dry stone masonry that I now have.

Sincerely,  
Jakob  
Drentlaw

#### NSSB Dry-Stack Stone Fence Workshop Testimonial

My participation in the Fall 2012 edition of the Native Stone Scenic Byway Dry-Stack Stone Fence Workshop was an extremely fulfilling experience. Growing up in Kansas, I have long had the pleasure of encountering the ancestral art of dry-stack stone fences. It was only through the organizational efforts of the Native Stone Scenic Byway committee, heuristic guidance of instructor Rocky Slaymaker, and cooperative attitude of fellow participants and alumni, however, that I inherited the skill behind their construction. As an architecture student at Kansas State University, the opportunities for *doing* and *making* are regrettably few. Thus, the strategy of learning through doing made the workshop a particularly rewarding experience, resulting in the completion of a 38' segment of stone fence near Dover, Kansas. My assessment of the accomplishment of workshop, however, is not founded upon the amount of stones stacked or soreness of my back. Indeed, over the course of two days I *made* more than a wall- I built friendships, created memories, and fostered an engrained connection to landscape and vernacular craft that will inform the way I practice architecture and inhabit the world.

-Elias Logan